

5th April 1944

THE  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES  
Official Report

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Volume III, 1944  
(28th March to 5th April, 1944)

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TWENTIETH SESSION  
OF THE  
FIFTH LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,  
1944



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

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Mr. GOVIND V. DESHMUKH, M.L.A.

Sardar SANT SINGH, M.L.A.

Mr. N. M. JOSHI, M.L.A.

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# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, 5th April, 1944

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber of the Council House at Eleven of the Clock. Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) in the Chair.

## MEMBER SWORN:

Mr. Zahid Husain, C.I.E., M.L.A. (Government of India: Nominated Official).

## STARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

### (a) ORAL ANSWERS.

#### PROCEDURE FOR ADMISSION, CLASSIFICATION, ETC., OF ACCREDITED PRESS CORRESPONDENTS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

**783. \*Mr. K. S. Gupta:** Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state:

(a) if it is a fact that Press Correspondents were given accreditation by the Bureau of Public Information and not by the Information and Broadcasting Department (who has now grouped them into two classes); and

(b) if the reply to part (a) be in the affirmative, what will now be the duties and functions of the Bureau of Public Information regarding admission of Correspondents to the accreditation, and what is the procedure and system, respectively, adopted for the admission of the present and of the future Correspondents to the respective classes of the group and the method prescribed for their promotion to and degradation from Class I of the group periodically or permanently and who will be the judge for such promotions and degradations?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

#### DISCONTENT RE CLASSIFICATION OF ACCREDITED PRESS CORRESPONDENTS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

**784. \*Mr. K. S. Gupta:** Is the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting aware that the classification in the group of the Accredited Press Correspondents with the Government of India has caused discontent amongst them? Will he please lay on the table the correspondence which passed between him and the Press Association and the Accredited Press Association? If not, why not?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** Yes, some complaints, both in regard to the principle of classification of privileges of accredited press correspondents and the according of category 'B' privileges to certain individual correspondents, have been received. As regards the remaining parts of the question, it is not considered in the public interest to lay the correspondence on the table of the House.

#### ACCREDITATION TO A PRESS CORRESPONDENT.

**785. \*Mr. K. S. Gupta:** Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state if it is a fact that the accreditation to a Correspondent is given on the request of a Newspaper or of a News agency and not on the prayer of the Correspondent? If not, what is the correct fact?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** The reply to the first part is in the affirmative. The second part does not arise.

#### \*GIVING OF GOVERNMENT ADVERTISEMENTS ONLY TO CERTAIN NEWSPAPERS.

**786. \*Mr. K. S. Gupta:** Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state if it is a fact that the advertisements are given by Government to those Newspapers only who are subscribing to the News Service

of the Associated Press or of the United Press? If so, why, and, if not, what is the correct fact?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** No, Sir. The second part of the question does not arise. As regards the last part, 'advertisements are given to newspapers in accordance with their importance from a commercial view point, ordinarily judged from their circulation, the quality of news and other reading matter, and the type of readership.

#### EXPENDITURE ON MILITARY ESTATES CIRCLES.

**787. \*Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang:** Will the Defence Secretary be pleased to state:

(a) the actual expenditure in respect of all the Military Estates Circles during the years 1937-1938, 1938-1939, 1939-1940, 1940-1941, 1941-1942, 1942-1943, separately, under the following heads: (i) Pay of Officers, (ii) Conveyance Allowance of Officers, (iii) Telephone Charges, (iv) Pay of Establishments, (v) Travelling Allowance of Officers, and (vi) Rents of office buildings; and

(b) the actual income from lands under the management of Military Estates Officers—(i) Inside cantonments; and (ii) from lands outside cantonments in India for the year 1942-43?

**Sir Charles Ogilvie:** (a) I regret that in present conditions I cannot undertake to search through old records for the past six years to compile the information. I am, however, furnishing consolidated figures for 1942-43:

(i) Pay of officers—Rs. 2,55,246.

(ii) Conveyance allowance of officers—Rs. 9,600.

(iii) Telephone charges—Rs. 1,970.

(iv) Pay of establishments—Rs. 1,50,496.

(v) Travelling allowance of officers—Rs. 25.

(vi) Rent of office buildings—These figures are not readily available as this expenditure is met by the M.E.S.

(b) (i) Rs. 4,36,760.

(ii) Rs. 63,406.

#### PROCUREMENT OF LANDS FOR WAR PURPOSES.

**788. \*Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang:** Will the Defence Secretary be pleased to state:

(a) the executive authorities, both provincial and central, which procure lands needed for war purposes by agreement leased, requisitioned or otherwise acquired, outside cantonment limits;

(b) the specific functions of the Military Estates Officers at the time of procurement of land for Defence purposes outside cantonment limits;

(c) whether the military authorities and the M.E.S. consult the Military Estates Officers as to the suitability of land, its lease money, or these things are left to the Collectors, and that the Military Estates Officers have no functions to perform;

(d) if it is a fact that copies of leases and plans of all lands which have been or may be leased by the Military Authorities have to be forwarded to the Officer on Special Duty (Lands), Defence Department:

(e) who has been appointed Officer on Special Duty (Lands), Defence Department, on what emoluments, from what date, the duties of this officer, what staff this officer has been given, and what the monthly expenditure is;

(f) why this work could not be done by the Cantonments and Lands Section of the Defence Department; and

(g) whether after the retirement of the present incumbent Government propose to entrust the preparation and maintenance of records of lands requisitioned, leased or otherwise acquired for war purposes to the Cantonments and Lands Section of the Defence Department?

**Sir Charles Ogilvie:** On the assumption that the Honourable Member is referring to the procurement of lands for the Defence Services, the replies are as follows:

(a) Collectors in the case of procurement under the Defence of India Rules; and the local military authorities, in the case of lease.

(b) The Military Estates Officers act for the military authorities in negotiations with the civil authorities.

(c) No.

(d) Yes.

(e) Lt.-Col. G. F. J. Paterson, C.I.E., O.B.E., M.C., was appointed Officer on Special Duty (Lands) from the 1st March 1943 on Rs. 2,145 p.m., his pension remaining in abeyance. He was succeeded by Lt.-Col. A. S. Sullivan, M.C., on the 20th March 1944.

The duties of the Officer on Special Duty (Lands) are the compilation and maintenance of a complete and detailed Central record of all lands, requisitioned, leased or acquired in connection with the war, for military, air force and naval purposes.

The staff under him consists of: (i) an Assistant-in-Charge, (ii) an Assistant, (iii) six clerks, and (iv) four servants.

The monthly expenditure is Rs. 3,200 approximately (including the pay of the officer).

(f) The Officer on Special Duty (Lands) and his staff form an integral part of the Cantonments and Lands Section. The work could not be done by the previously existing staff.

(g) In view of the reply to parts (e) and (f), does not arise.

#### TRANSFERS OF CANTONMENT EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.

789. \*Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang: Will the Defence Secretary be pleased to state:

(a) the general policy regarding transfers of Executive Officers;

(b) the period for which an Executive Officer should normally hold the appointment in a cantonment;

(c) if it is a fact that travelling allowance on transfer of an Executive Officer is paid from the cantonment fund;

(d) the total expenditure from cantonment funds during the financial year 1942-43 on travelling allowances on transfer; and

(e) if Government are willing to give an assurance that no cantonment fund will be made to pay more than once in every four years travelling allowance on transfer of an Executive Officer, and that whilst arranging transfer due regard will be paid to the finances of the cantonment authorities?

Sir Charles Ogilvie: (a) The general policy is laid down in rule 15 of the Cantonment Executive Officers Service Rules, 1937, which provides that a member of the Service shall be liable to transfer, at any time, to any cantonment at the discretion of the Central Government.

(b) No period has been prescribed, but in normal times, subject to the exigencies of the service, an Executive Officer remains in a cantonment for three years.

(c) Yes.

(d) The information is being obtained and will be laid on the table in due course.

(e) It is not possible to give such an assurance.

#### INTRODUCTION OF LOW SCALES OF PAY FOR EMPLOYEES OF CERTAIN CANTONMENT BOARDS.

790. \*Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang: Is the Defence Secretary aware of the fact that in the late Headquarters, Northern Command, in February, 1938, the Deputy Director, Military Lands and Cantonments, introduced very low scales of pay for the employees of the Cantonment Boards? If the reply is in the affirmative what is the particular provision of the Cantonments Act, 1924, or of the rules made thereunder under which the Deputy Director, Military Lands and Cantonments formulated his general scheme? Did he obtain the concurrence of the Government of India before legislating for twenty-seven cantonments in the matter of their staff? What is the general policy of Government with regard to the staff of the cantonment authorities, and will Government give an assurance that the Cantonment Boards will be allowed reasonable discretion in the question of their staff?

**Sir Charles Ogilvie:** The information is being obtained and will be laid on the table in due course.

RE-ORGANISATION OF CANTONMENT SERVICE.

791. **\*Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang:** (a) Will the Defence Secretary be pleased to state if Government have so far taken any action on the resolution of Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh, regarding cantonment service, and when the assurance given by Government regarding the examination of the position with a view to establishing improved prospects for the cantonment service, will be implemented, and how Government propose to make the cantonment service an attractive career?

(b) What is meant by the term Cantonment Service? Does the Honourable Member propose to make a detailed statement on this question?

**Sir Charles Ogilvie:** (a) The matter is still under the consideration of Government.

(b) In this context, "Cantonment Service" may be taken to comprise the Military Estates Officers belonging to the Cantonments Department and Executive Officers belonging to the Service of Cantonment Executive Officers.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** May I know from the Honourable Member, with regard to the Resolution of Mr. Deshmukh, how far the suggestions made there have progressed. Are they under consideration? With regard to the appointment of the Executive Officer, his pay and other details, an assurance was given at that time. I would like to know what has happened.

**Sir Charles Ogilvie:** The subject-matter of the resolution is under the consideration of the Government, and the consideration has reached an advanced stage.

RE-ORGANISATION OF CANTONMENT SERVICE.

†792. **\*Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang:** Will the Defence Secretary please state:

(a) the financial effect of the proposal moved by Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh on the Central Revenues and the cantonment funds; and

(b) if the proposal of Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh was circulated to the Cantonment Boards and Military Estates Officers and the Command/Army Commanders for their opinion and consideration; if not, why not; if the Cantonment Boards have to pay half the salary of Executive Officers, whether Government have consulted or intend to consult Cantonment Boards in the event of establishing improved prospects for the Executive Officers?

**Sir Charles Ogilvie:** (a) A statement is being prepared and will be laid on the table.

(b) The answer to the first part is in the negative; Government did not think it necessary to circulate. As regards the second part, Government have not yet consulted Cantonment Boards and have not yet decided whether it will be necessary to do so.

DIFFICULTIES IN THE WORKING OF CANTONMENTS ACT.

†793. **\*Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang:** Will the Defence Secretary be pleased to state if at the time of amending the Cantonments Act, the cantonment authorities and Military Estates Officers had been ever consulted, and what criterion Government have in finding out the practical difficulties in the working of the Cantonments Act? What is the position with regard to the crediting of fines into the cantonment funds under section 106 of the Cantonments Act? Do not Government intend to restore section 106(c) of the Cantonments Act, in view of the judgment of the Federal Court in the case of the United Provinces *versus* the Governor General in Council? What is the annual financial loss to the Cantonment Boards due to the deletion of section 107(c)?

**Sir Charles Ogilvie:** There was no direct consultation with Cantonment Boards and Military Estates Officers. The General Officers Commanding-in-Chief the then Commands, to whom Cantonment Boards and Military Estates Officers are subordinate were, however, consulted.

†Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner having exhausted his quota.

Difficulties in the working of the Cantonments Act, when encountered, are reported to Government through the prescribed channels—by those entrusted with the working of the Act.

Clause (c) of section 106 of the Cantonments Act was deleted by the Adaptation of Indian Laws Order, and the position now is that fines formerly credited to Cantonment Funds under this clause have since 1st April 1939 been credited to Provincial revenues.

Government have no intention of restoring clause (c) of section 106 of the Act.

The information asked for in the last sentence of the question will necessitate references to and the searching of records back to 1939 in respect of some 77 cantonments, and I regret that I am unable to collect it as the labour involved would not be commensurable with its value.

#### APPOINTMENT OF MORE KING'S COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN CANTONMENTS DEPARTMENT.

†794. \*Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang: (a) Will the Defence Secretary be pleased to state if it is a fact that prior to April, 1937, the authorised appointments in the Cantonments Department for the King's Commissioned Officers were four administrative appointments and eleven Class I Executive Officers? Is it or is it not a fact that in October, 1936, there were actually thirty-three King's Commissioned Officers against an authorised strength of fifteen?

(b) Is it or is it not a fact that on the reorganisation of the Cantonments Department and the creation of the Lands Branch on a permanent basis, with effect from the 1st April, 1937, the authorised strength of the officers of the Cantonments Department was fixed at twenty-nine including five leave reserve? Is it or is it not a fact that of these twenty-nine appointments, twenty six were given to Europeans?

(c) What are the conditions of service of the King's Commissioned Officers?

(d) Are the Government of India without making a reference to the Secretary of State competent to appoint King's Commissioned Officers as Executive Officers *cum* Military Estates Officers of Cantonments?

(e) What is the total number of King's Commissioned Officers in the Cantonments Department, and how many are going to attain the age of fifty-five and retire in 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, respectively?

Sir Charles Ogilvie: (a) and (b). Yes; the facts are as stated by the Honourable Member.

(c) These are laid down in Annexure to Army Instruction (India) No. 214 of 1937, a copy of which is being placed in the Library of the House.

(d) Yes.

(e) Eighteen officers, excluding three officers, retired from the Department and re-employed.

1944—one;

1945—none;

1946—one;

1947—two.

} This excludes the Director, Military Lands and Cantonments, who can serve up to the age of 57.

#### CANTONMENTS IN INDIA.

†795. \*Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang: (a) Will the Defence Secretary be pleased to state the total number of cantonments in India?

(b) Is it or is it not a fact that under the Cantonments Act and the Cantonment Land Administration Rules, 1937, every Cantonment has to have an Executive Officer and a Military Estates Officer, that every cantonment must have a separate General Land Register and Land Revenue Register, that every cantonment is a separate unit of administration, that every cantonment must have an Officer Commanding the Station, and that the Military Estates Officer conducts the management of Class "A" (1) land (which includes the development of the resources of the land, the disposal of usufruct, and the planting and maintenance of trees) in consultation with and under the general supervision of the said Officer Commanding the Station?

† Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner having exhausted his quota.



(c) Is it or is it not a fact that even additions and alterations in the General Land Register cannot be made by the Military Estates Officer of a cantonment without the previous sanction of the Central Government?

(d) What is the number of cantonments in which the Executive Officer is working as the Agent of the Military Estates Officer helped by a Cantonment Board employee in the clerical and outdoor work?

(e) What is the number of cantonments in which the Executive Officer with the clerical and outdoor help of the Military Estates Overseer is performing the duties of the Agent of the Military Estates Officer?

(f) What is the number and names of cantonments in which the Military Estates Officer is himself the Executive Officer, and his outdoor work in his capacity as Military Estates Officer is being done by the Military Estates Overseer?

(g) What is the number and names of cantonments in which the Military Estates Officer is not the Executive Officer but Military Estates Officer alone, and his outdoor work is being done by the help of the Military Estates Overseer?

(h) What is the number of appointments of Military Estates Overseers and their grades?

**Sir Charles Gilvie:** The information is being obtained and a reply will be laid on the table in due course.

#### EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AS AGENTS OF MILITARY ESTATES OFFICERS.

†796. \***Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang:** (a) Will the Defence Secretary please state what are the particular provisions of the Cantonments Act or of the Cantonment Executive Officers Service Rules, 1937, under which the Executive Officers have been appointed agents of the Military Estates Officers?

(b) What are the functions of the Agents of the Military Estates Officers, and the reasons for the appointment of these Agents?

(c) Is it a fact that the management of B-3 lands outside bazar areas was transferred to the Military Estates Officers from the 1st September, 1937, and that the new system broke down in or about November or October, 1938? Why have not Government amalgamated the posts of the Military Estates Officer and the Executive Officer?

(d) If the annual budgets in respect of Lands Branch are sanctioned and controlled by the Defence Department, and if consolidated annual statements under Rule 41 of the Cantonment Account Code, 1924, are available in the Defence Department in respect of Cantonment Funds, what are the actual incomes from Lands under the management of the Military Estates Officers credited to the Central Revenues and the actual income from lands under management of the Cantonment Boards in respect of the following Cantonments for the year 1942-43:—

Allahabad, Lucknow, Dehra Dun, Meerut, Agra, Barrackpore, Rawalpindi, Peshawar, Kohat, Lahore, Ambala, Karachi, Quetta, Jubbulpore, Wellington, Deolali, Secunderabad, Aurangabad, Poona, Kirkee, Nasirabad, Bareilly, Saugar, and St. Thomas Mount?

(e) What is the rent of class "C" lands realised by the Central Government from the cantonment funds for the year 1942-43 in respect of cantonments enumerated in (d) above?

(f) Is it or is it not a fact that agents of the Military Estates Officers keep upto date and also maintain a copy of the General Land Register and also keep a Land Revenue Register, collect all the income from B-3 and A-2 lands and agricultural lands, hold auctions of trees, etc., and credit all income to the Central Revenues into the local treasury, and that the Military Estates Officer is to complete his registers in his office? If the reply is in the affirmative, what particular functions does the Military Estates Officer perform in respect of Cantonments where the Executive Officer is doing his work? Do not Government think that the present system results in duplication, unnecessary work and waste of energy?

†Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner having exhausted his ques-

**Sir Charles Ogilvie:** The information is being obtained and a reply will be laid on the table in due course.

**INCOME OF CERTAIN CANTONMENT FUNDS AND KING'S COMMISSIONED OFFICERS IN CANTONMENTS DEPARTMENT.**

†797. **\*Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang:** Will the Defence Secretary be pleased to state:

(a) the total income of the following cantonment funds of the previous two financial years and the estimated income of the current financial year—

Secunderabad, Quetta, Peshawar, Lahore, Ambala, Cawnpore, Rawalpindi, Poona, Meerut, Lucknow, Agra and Mhow;

(b) the number and monthly salaries, ranks and lengths of service in the Cantonments Department of the King's Commissioned Officers who are employed as Military Estates Officers;

(c) the names of cantonments which, without much financial embarrassment, would be capable of meeting half the salary of King's Commissioned Officers of the Cantonments Department if such officers were appointed Executive Officers *cum* Military Estates Officers of any of these Cantonments?

(d) the names of cantonments in which there is the post of the Assistant Secretary, with the number of the incumbants, their monthly salaries and allowances, and also the particular provisions of the Cantonments Act, 1924, or of the rules made thereunder which contemplate the creation or justification for such an appointment; if these appointments exist without legal sanction, whether Government propose to look into the question and see that these are abolished;

(e) the number of the retired King's Commissioned Officers of the Cantonments Department who have been re-employed as Military Estates Officers, together with their monthly emoluments, their ages and their periods of employment, and the future policy of Government regarding such extensions;

(f) the present monthly emoluments of the President, Cantonment Board, Secunderabad Cantonment; and the present monthly emoluments of the Executive Officer, and if the emoluments of these two officers are paid from the cantonment fund, Secunderabad, or from the Defence Service Estimates; and

(g) the number of the King's Commissioned Officers of the Cantonments Department released for military duty?

**Sir Charles Ogilvie:** The information is being obtained and a reply will be laid on the table in due course.

**ASSAMESE IN ALL-INDIA RADIO.**

798. **\*Mr. Ananga Mohan Dam:** (a) Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state the number of (i) Gazetted, and (ii) non-Gazetted officers in the All-India Radio?

(b) The number of inhabitants of Assam in the two classes of services?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** (a) Gazetted 132, and Non-gazetted (excluding inferior staff) 917.

(b) There are no Assamese among the gazetted officers. Among the non-gazetted staff there is one Assamese and one Bengali domiciled in Assam.

**AUCTION OF CAR STANDING IN THE NAME OF MRS. ASAF ALI.**

799. **\*Mr. K. S. Gupta:** (a) Will the Honourable the Home Member please state if it is a fact that the car of the All-India Women's League standing in the name of Mrs. Asaf Ali has been auctioned?

(b) By whom was it ordered, and under what law?

(c) Are Government prepared to hand over the car to the real owner—the All-India Women's League? If not, why not?

(d) Is it a fact that the house belonging to Mr. Asaf Ali has been attached and sold as the sole property of Mrs. Asaf Ali who has no claim of any kind on the house attached and sold?

(e) Are Government prepared to declare that Mrs. Asaf Ali has no right in the property standing in the name of Mr. Asaf Ali who is a detenu?

†Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner having exhausted his quota.

**The Honourable Sir John Thorne:** (a) and (b). A motor-car registered in the name of Mrs. Asaf Ali, who is a proclaimed absconder, was auctioned under orders of the Additional District Magistrate, Delhi, in proceedings under section 88 of the Code of Criminal Procedure. No claim appears to have been made by or on behalf of the All-India Women's League to its ownership. If that body desired to make a claim, it could have done so to the Magistrate under sub-section (6A) of section 88.

(c) The proceedings were conducted in accordance with the law and Government see no cause to intervene.

(d) A house registered in the name of Mrs. Asaf Ali has been attached but not yet sold.

(e) Does not arise.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** May I ask what evidence there was before the District Magistrate or the Government that the car belonged to Mrs. Asaf Ali and not to Mr. Asaf Ali?

**The Honourable Sir John Thorne:** I have said that the motor car was registered in the name of Mrs. Asaf Ali.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** Because the car was registered in the name of Mrs. Asaf Ali, no other evidence was taken?

**The Honourable Sir John Thorne:** I should have thought that the registration was sufficient.

#### ACTION IN RESPECT OF MAHATMA GANDHI, ETC., UNDER ORDINANCE NO. III OF 1944.

†800. **\*Mr. R. E. Gupta:** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state if any action has been taken under the Restrictions and Detentions Ordinance No. III of 1944 in respect of Mahatma Gandhi and other Members of the Working Committee of the All-India Congress? If not, why not? If so, what action has been taken?

**The Honourable Sir John Thorne:** The grounds of detention have been made known under section 7 of the Restriction and Detention Ordinance to Mr. Gandhi and those members of the Congress Working Committee who are in detention.

#### ATTACHMENT OF MR. ASAF ALI'S PROPERTY.

801. **\*Sardar Mangal Singh:** Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) whether it is a fact that any house property situated in Delhi belonging to Mr. Asaf Ali, M. L. A. (Central), and a member of the Congress Working Committee, or Mrs. Asaf Ali has been attached by the police;

(b) whether Government are aware that the said property actually belonged to Mr. Asaf Ali; and

(c) whether Government are prepared to return the same to its rightful owner; if not, why not?

**The Honourable Sir John Thorne:** (a) A house registered in the name of Mrs. Asaf Ali has been attached.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

**Sardar Mangal Singh:** Did the District Magistrate satisfy himself beforehand that the House really belonged to Mrs. Asaf Ali and not to Mr. Asaf Ali?

**The Honourable Sir John Thorne:** I understand that the District Magistrate proceeded on the municipal registration.

#### PAY OF CERTAIN BRITISH MARRIED OFFICERS AND INDIAN COMMISSIONED MARRIED OFFICERS.

802. **\*Sardar Mangal Singh:** Will the War Secretary please state the consolidated pay of the following British Married Officers and Indian Commissioned Married Officers:

Second Lieutenant;

Lieutenant, after six years;

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†Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner being absent.

Lieutenant, after seven years;  
 Captain;  
 Major; and  
 Lieutenant Colonel?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** A statement has been laid on the table.

*Statement.*

Married Rates of Pay in India.

	British Officers of the Indian Army.		Indian Commissioned Officers' consolidated rate of pay.
	Regular	E. C. Os.	Regular and E. C. Os.
	Rs. per mensem.	Rs. per mensem.	Rs. per mensem.
2nd Lieutenant . . . . .	565	530	450
Lieutenant after 6 years . . . . .	690	655	520
Lieutenant after 7 years . . . . .	720	670	520
Captain . . . . .	825	775	610
Major . . . . .	1,305	1,205	850
Lieutenant-Colonel . . . . .	1,650	1,550	1,145

The rates of pay of British Officers of the Indian Army given above are made up of the following elements : (a) Basic pay, (b) Indian Army allowance, (c) Lodging allowance and (d) Marriage allowance.

Lodging allowance is not admissible when Government provides quarters.

CONSOLIDATED PAY OF BRITISH AND INDIAN SOLDIERS AND THAT OF AMERICAN SOLDIERS, ETC.

**803. \*Sardar Mangal Singh:** Will the War Secretary please state :

- (a) the consolidated pay of British and Indian soldiers; and
- (b) similar pays of American, Canadian, Australian and South African soldiers?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** (a) A statement has been laid on the table.

(b) The information required is not readily available and its collection would involve an amount of time and labour not justifiable in war-time.

*Statement.*

British Other Ranks.					V. C. Os. and Indian Other Ranks.		
Rank.	In India.	In Middle East.	In Persia and Iraq.	Rank.	In India.*	Ex-India.	
W. O. I. . . . .	292 8	286 10	320 0	Subedar-Major . . . . .	250 0	290 0	
W. O. II—				Subedar . . . . .	130—160	170—200	
R. Q. M. S. . . . .	247 8	236 10	265 0	Jemadar . . . . .	75—100	100—125	
C. S. M. . . . .	213 12	206 10	235 0	Havildar after 1 year's service as N. C. O. . . . .	34 0	56 0	
S/Sergeant . . . . .	202 8	191 10	225 0	Havildar after 3 years' service as N. C. O. . . . .	38 0	60 0	
Sergeant . . . . .	157 8	150 0	185 0	Naik after 1 year's service as N. C. O. . . . .	31 0	53 0	
Corporal . . . . .	129 6	121 10	133 5	Naik after 2 year's service as N. C. O. . . . .	33 0	55 0	
L/Corporal . . . . .	118 12	111 10	123 5	L/Naik . . . . .	8 8	43 8	
Private—							
After 3 years' service.	90 0	86 10	98 5	Sepoy after 3 years . . . . .	26 8	41 8	
After 1 year's service.	73 2	71 10	83 5	Sepoy after 1 year . . . . .	26 8	41 8	
				Non-Combatants (Enrolled) after 1 year's service. . . . .	20 0	32 8	

British Other rank's pay excludes marriage allowance, which is the same for all ranks as shown below :—

Married.	Married with 1 child.	Married with 2 children.
30	86	136
plus Rs. 45 for each additional child.		

\*This rate excludes *batta* (varying from Rs. 8 p. m. to Rs. 18 p.m. according to rank and being Rs. 5-8-0 in the case of Non-Combatants admissible in field service areas in India.

**Sardar Mangal Singh:** Is it not a fact that the difference between the Indian soldier and the soldiers belonging to the United Nations is very great and on that account there is some disaffection in the Indian forces?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** I know there are differences but I do not subscribe to the Honourable Member's view that there is discontent in the Indian army on account of that.

**Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Ghani:** What is the exact difference between the pay of a British soldier and that of an Indian soldier?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** I have laid a statement on the table from which the Honourable Member can see the difference. It is a long statement.

**Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Ghani:** What is the pay of a British soldier and an Indian soldier when they are first recruited?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** The pay of a British soldier is Rs. 73-2-0 and the basic pay of an Indian soldier is Rs. 18.

**Dr. Sir Zia Uddin Ahmad:** With reference to the answer to part (b) of the question, may I say that the information asked for will be more important in the interests of the Honourable Secretary himself than in the interests of the Opposition? Therefore, I think it is very desirable that this information should be collected.

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** I have noted the Honourable Member's statement.

**Dr. Sir Zia Uddin Ahmad:** Does the Honourable Member mean to say that he has noted that he will collect the information?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** No, Sir.

**Dr. Sir Zia Uddin Ahmad:** I say that the information in regard to the pay of soldiers in different countries is very important and the time and labour involved in such a collection are really commensurate with the importance of the work.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Next question.

#### UNSATISFACTORY CATERING AT CIVILIAN GROCERY SHOPS.

**804. \*Mr. K. S. Gupta:** Will the Honourable the Finance Member please state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the representation addressed to the Finance Department about hardships experienced in the Civilian Grocery Shops which have been recently opened for Government servants in *Delhi and Simla*;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to remove those hardships; if so, what they are; if not, why not;

(c) whether Government are aware that tinned provisions mainly kept in these shops are the imported articles from Canada, Australia and America and are not of Indian origin;

(d) whether such a provision of tinned stuff is not intended to cater for the needs of highly paid officials and is not needed by and is beyond the reach of low paid staff;

(e) whether Government would consider the advisability of keeping such things in these shops which would really cater to the needs of the low paid staff who require financial aid by way of concession rates at cost price; and

(f) whether Government would open cheap shops for hosiery, cloth, boots and shoes for Government servants; if so, when; if not, why not?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** (a) to (e). The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to my reply to Mr. Krishnamachari's starred question No. 322 of the 9th March 1944. Efforts are continuously being made to extend the scope of these shops, particularly in lines which are in demand by the low-paid staff.

(f) Yes It is hoped that these shops will be opened by the end of April 1944.

#### AUCTION OF EXCISE CONTRACTS IN DELHI.

**805. \*Mr. Ananga Mohan Dam:** Will the Honourable the Finance Member please state:

(a) if it is a fact—

(i) that auction of excise contracts in Delhi was publicly advertised to be held on the 13th and 14th March, 1944;

(ii) that this year the Chief Commissioner of Delhi has made over the excise contracts to the old licencees on a charge of Rs. 9 per gallon as licence fee; and

(iii) that the revenue has been reduced to Rs. 3,60,000, against the preceding year's revenue of about Rs. 6 lakhs; and

(b) whether Government are contemplating to hold an auction; if not, why not?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** I have called for a report from the Chief Commissioner of Delhi and a reply will be laid on the table of the House in due course.

DETENTION OF WALIZADA ABDULNABI OF KARACHI.

**806. \*Nawab Siddique Ali Khan** (on behalf of **Seth Yusuf Abdoola Haroon**): Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state:

(a) if it is a fact that one Walizada Abdunabi, son of Shahdad Baloch, of Karachi has been detained under the Defence of India Rules by the Government of Sind;

(b) if it is a fact that the said Abdunabi has not taken part in any political activity, nor does he belong to any political organization;

(c) if it is a fact that the said Abdunabi has been detained for absolutely no cause or reason whatsoever;

(d) if there is anything on the record against the said Abdunabi, and whether any steps have been taken to verify the same; and

(e) for how long the said Abdunabi has been under detention, and after how long Government contemplate releasing him?

**The Honourable Sir John Thorne:** (a) Yes.

(b), (c), (d) and (e). Abdul Nabi has been in detention since April 1943. I would rather say nothing at present about the grounds for his detention, because these have lately been communicated to him and his representation is at present under consideration.

COMMISSIONED OFFICER CADETS DISCHARGED FROM BELGAUM OFFICER CADETS TRAINING CENTRE.

**807. \*Nawab Siddique Ali Khan** (on behalf of **Seth Yusuf Abdoola Haroon**): Will the War Secretary kindly state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on February 1st, 1944, about twenty-four Commissioned Officer Cadets were discharged from Belgaum Officer Cadets Training Centre;

(b) whether it is a fact that the only reason assigned was that they were unable to fight the Japs;

(c) whether it is a fact that they had passed the Central Inquiry Board before being commissioned;

(d) whether it is a fact that these Officer Cadets were already in Government employment before joining;

(e) whether it is a fact that the Company Commander of that station is prejudiced against Indians; and

(f) whether Government are now prepared to recall them and place them again before the Inquiry Board and ascertain whether this discharge was effected on grounds of personal prejudice of the Station Commander or for any other reasons?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** (a) Yes, Sir, but I would inform the Honourable Member that they were not commissioned, as commissions are granted only on the successful completion of training as officer-cadets.

(b) No, Sir. The cadets were discharged because they were either unable to pass the required tests or lacked the qualities necessary for the making of a good officer.

(c) 12 of them had been passed by the Old Central Interview Boards before starting their training. These Boards, I may add, have proved unsatisfactory and have since been replaced by the General Headquarters Selection Boards.

(d) As far as I have been able to ascertain in the time at my disposal eight of them were previously in Government service.

(e) No, Sir. On the contrary, the Commandant of the Belgaum Officers' Training School, who is the officer responsible, is known to be most sympathetic towards Indian cadets.

(f) The answer to the first part is in the negative. As regards the latter part, a full inquiry has been made and Government are satisfied that the cadets were discharged only on grounds of unsuitability, as indicated in my reply to part (b) above.

**ACTION IN RESPECT OF DETENUS UNDER ORDINANCE III OF 1944.**

**808. \*Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** Will the Honourable the Home Member be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons in British India to whom the grounds on which they have been detained have been communicated as a consequence of the issue of Ordinance No. 3 of 1944;

(b) the number of detenus who have sent representations in reply;

(c) whether similar notices were served on the Members of the All-India Congress Committee; if so, on how many;

(d) whether similar notices have been served on the Members of the Congress Working Committee;

(e) whether a similar notice was served on Mahatma Gandhi;

(f) whether the Central Government or the Provincial Governments concerned have received any replies from the detenus covered by (c), (d) and (e); and

(g) how many detenus were released as a result of replies received from them in response to notices served on them under ordinance No. 3 of 1944?

**The Honourable Sir John Thorne:** (a) 115 persons detained by or at the instance of the Central Government or under the orders of Chief Commissioners have been told the grounds for their detention as required by section 7 of Ordinance No. III of 1944. I have no information regarding persons detained under the orders of Provincial Governments.

(b) and (f). Representations in reply have been received from 62 out of the number I have given.

(c) I have no separate information about members of the All-India Congress Committee.

(d) and (e). Yes.

(g) Many of the representations are still under consideration. None of the Security Prisoners to whom my answer refers has been released so far.

**Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** With reference to the answer to part (e) of the question, may I ask the Honourable Member what is the reply given by Mahatma Gandhi to the notice sent to him under Ordinance III of 1944?

**The Honourable Sir John Thorne:** I regret that I am not prepared to go into details of that kind.

**Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** *Vis-a-vis* the application of Ordinance III of 1944, may I ask what is the position of those people who have been interned at a particular place? May I make the position more clear? Some people have been interned and I do not know under what Ordinance they have been so interned. In view of Ordinance No. 3 of 1944 which has recently been promulgated, may I ask if any charges are going to be framed against such persons who have been interned and the gist of such charges communicated to them?

**The Honourable Sir John Thorne:** I am not sure that I understand the question. But I suggest that it does not arise, and I must ask for notice.

**Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** Is the Honourable Member in a position to say that internees are not governed by this Ordinance?

**The Honourable Sir John Thorne:** I have not said anything of the sort. I have dealt with the question put to me.

**Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** What is the position of internees *vis-a-vis* Ordinance III of 1944?

**The Honourable Sir John Thorne:** If I knew what my Honourable friend meant by internees, I might perhaps be able to answer. But this question does not arise.

**Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** Those people who have been asked to stay at particular places and not to move out of those places.

**The Honourable Sir John Thorne:** That is not covered by the question, which relates to people who have been detained, and therefore this question does not arise.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** May I know from the Honourable Member whether a Board or a Committee has been constituted to consider these explanations of these detenus?

**The Honourable Sir John Thorne:** I want notice as regards all matters of detail arising as to procedure.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** I only want to know whether the Government themselves go through these explanations or some Board or Committee is constituted to do so?

**The Honourable Sir John Thorne:** So far as the Ordinance is concerned, I must refer the Honourable Member to the terms of the Ordinance.

**Sardar Mangal Singh:** Can the Honourable Member give the House the contents of the notice served on Mahatma Gandhi?

**The Honourable Sir John Thorne:** No, Sir.

COMMISSIONED OFFICERS DISMISSED FROM SERVICE.

†809. \***Mr. K. S. Gupta:** (a) Will the War Secretary please state the number of Commissioned Officers of the Indian Army dismissed from service in the years 1941, 1942, 1943 and 1944 up-to-date?

(b) What is the maximum period of service of each at the time of dismissal?

(c) How long does it take to decide whether one is fit or unfit for service in the army?

(d) Are there any Immediate Reporting Officers (Commanding Officers) found inefficient?

(e) Is it not a fact that all Commanding Officers are non-Indians?

(f) Are the Government of India aware of a strong anti-Indian element existing in the Indian Army?

(g) Is the Honourable Member aware that a strong feeling of discontent is existing in the Indian army due to unjust and discriminatory treatment meted out to Indian Officers where the European Officers are not dealt with for similar offences?

(h) How many Indian Commissioned Officers have been given the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in the Indian Engineers, Indian Artillery and Indian Signals?

(i) Is it a fact that the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel is almost reserved for non-Indians and Europeans? If so, why?

**Mr. O. M. Trivedi:**

(a) 1941	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	19
1942	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	26
1943	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	83
1944	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5

This makes a total of 133, out of whom 28 are Indian Officers, and the remaining 105 British Officers.

(b) The information asked for is not readily available and its collection would involve an amount of time and labour not justifiable in war-time.

(c) There is no fixed period. Each case depends on its individual merits.

(d) I am not aware of any such case, but it is not impossible.

(e) No, Sir. There are no less than 33 Indian Commanding Officers.

(f) No, Sir. On the contrary, as far as Government are aware, British officers and other ranks have the greatest liking and admiration for the Indian officers and other ranks.

†Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner having exhausted his quota.



(g) No, Sir. There is no discrimination against Indian Officers. All officers, whether British or Indian, are treated alike. If the Honourable Member can furnish me with any authenticated case of discrimination, I will be glad to have it investigated.

(h) There are 2 Indian Lieutenant-Colonels in the Indian Engineers, but none as yet in the Indian Artillery and the Indian Signal Corps.

(i) No, Sir. On the contrary, there are no less than 53 Indian Lieutenant-Colonels in the Indian Army, excluding 87 Indian Lieutenant-Colonels in the Indian Army Medical Corps.

#### INDIAN NATIONAL FLAG.

810. \*Sardar Mangal Singh: Will the Honourable the Home Member please state if the Government of India have declared the Indian National Flag as unlawful? If so, under what provisions of law?

The Honourable Sir John Thorne: I am not aware that the flying of any flag which can properly be so described has been declared to be unlawful.

Sardar Mangal Singh: Is the Honourable Member aware that National Flag flying in certain places has been hauled down?

The Honourable Sir John Thorne: The question relates to the "Indian National Flag", and I have replied to the question saying that I am not aware that the flying of any flag that can be so described has been declared to be unlawful.

Sardar Mangal Singh: If I bring examples to the notice of the Government where there has been interference with the flying of the National Flag, then will the Honourable Member take some action?

The Honourable Sir John Thorne: I think the Honourable Member and myself are at cross purposes as regards what is meant by National Flag. He means by National Flag something which I do not.

Mr. Kailash Bihari Lall: There have been prosecutions in U. P. and other Provinces for hoisting the National Flag, that is the tri-colour flag of the Congress?

The Honourable Sir John Thorne: I think perhaps it would simplify matters if I say that the question which I answered relates to the "Indian National Flag", the Honourable Member who put the original question and the Honourable Member who put the supplementary question mean thereby the Congress flag. But I do not accept the question as requiring from me an answer which will assume that I regard the Congress flag as the Indian National Flag. I do not regard it as such.

#### CLASSIFICATION OF MR. KRISHNA NAIR, A CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE PRISONER.

811. \*Sardar Mangal Singh: Will the Honourable the Home Member please state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mr. Krishna Nair, a civil disobedience prisoner of 1942 from Delhi, is being treated as a non-political C Class prisoner in the Lyallpur District Jail;

(b) by whom his classification as a non-political C Class prisoner was made;

(c) whether it is a fact that during the last *Satyagraha* Movement he was placed in the B Class; and

(d) whether Government will reconsider his case and put him in a better class as a political prisoner?

The Honourable Sir John Thorne: (a), (b) and (d). In accordance with the practice under the Punjab rules, Mr. Krishnan Nair, who was convicted of a crime of violence in connection with the August disturbances, was placed in Class "C". His conviction in that case is reported to have been upset on appeal quite recently but he is still serving a sentence for a less serious offence in respect of which he would under the Punjab rules be treated as "special class". The question of his reclassification will certainly be considered, if this has not already been effected.

(c) I believe this is correct.

**COMPULSION ON LANDLORDS TO CONTRIBUTE TO NATIONAL SAVINGS CERTIFICATES IN SHAHABAD, BIHAR.**

**812. \*Mr. Ramayan Prasad:** Will the Honourable the Finance Member be pleased to state:

(a) if it is not a fact that the District Magistrate of Shahabad required the landlords to invest  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the amount of land revenue in the National Savings Certificate;

(b) if it is not a fact that a deputation waited upon the District Magistrate of Shahabad to represent the difficulties of the landlords;

(c) if it is not a fact that the District Magistrate after his discussion with the deputation fixed the following amount in varying proportion to the land revenue which the landlords pay:

(i) landlords paying land revenue up to Rs. 599 annually will have to invest  $\frac{1}{5}$  of their annual demand;

(ii) landlords paying land revenue from Rs. 600 to Rs. 1,199 will have to invest  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the annual demand;

(iii) landlords paying land revenue of more than Rs. 1,200 will have to invest  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the annual demand; and

(iv) landlords who are proprietors of temporarily Kunwar Singh will have to invest  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the annual demand;

(d) if Government are aware that the landlords' income in Bihar being fixed under permanent settlement and the value of rupee having depreciated, the landlords' income has practically gone down by more than half; and

(e) if Government propose to take immediate steps in the matter to stop the District Magistrate of Shahabad from realising contribution to the National Savings Certificate so that the landlords may make payment of the land revenue in time?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** (a) Government understand that in connection with the provincial savings drive the District Magistrate of Shahabad, Bihar, discussed with certain leading landlords of that district what they considered to be a reasonable measure of investment by landlords in National Savings Certificates and other forms of Government borrowings. As a result it was generally made known that, in view of the pressing necessity to absorb surplus spending power as an anti-inflationary measure for the good of the community at large, it would be reasonable for landlords, whose duty it is in these as in other matters to set an example to their tenants, to invest amounts roughly equal to one-third of their land revenue demands.

(b) to (e). Government have no further information. The matter is one entirely within the competence of the Provincial Government. Government have repeatedly impressed on Provincial Governments and the general public the grave necessity of securing the maximum saving effort in order to protect the country from the evils of inflation and Government are satisfied that they can with complete confidence leave the local arrangements for carrying on savings drives to the discretion of Provincial Governments.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** May I know if this demand from landlords is voluntary or under compulsion?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** I am not aware that any legislation has been passed or that any statutory obligation has been created.

**Sir Muhammad Yamin Khan:** Is it a fact that though statutory obligations may not have been created, yet official pressure is exerted, on the landlords to buy these National Savings Certificates, irrespective of the fact whether they can afford to purchase them or not?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** I would hope that the Provincial Governments are using all methods which they can to induce people to subscribe to these loans, otherwise it will fail and the consequences to the community at large will be disastrous.

**Sir Muhammad Yamin Khan:** Does the Honourable Member include in inducement, the use of force also or any pressure?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** I do not include the use of physical force.

**Sir Muhammad Yamin Khan:** I do not mean physical.

**Dr. P. N. Banerjee:** Fraud also is included?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** If by pressure, the Honourable Member means a high degree of persuasion, then, I think that is entirely justified.

**Sir Muhammad Yamin Khan:** I mean this. If there are cases of landlords pending in the courts of S.D.O.'s and if S.D.O. puts up pressure and asks the landlord to purchase these defence certificates, does the Honourable Member not call it undue pressure? I am sure the Honourable Member is aware of the famous case in Allahabad High Court where it was alleged that one of the subordinate judicial officers was interesting himself in collecting war funds from the litigants and it was alleged that this was at the instance of the High Court of Allahabad. The Honourable Member is aware of all that.

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** I cannot answer hypothetical questions. I suggest that the Honourable Member and his Group only a few months ago showed the most intense anxiety on the subject of the rise in prices and on the general economic situation and I would ask him and his friends to try and view these things in the light of the perils of which they are well aware and of the acknowledged necessity in all countries of combating this dangerous disease by intensified savings drives.

**Dr. P. N. Banerjee:** There are other ways of combating that evil.

**Sir Muhammad Yamin Khan:** We will all support if it is persuasion.

**Mr. Kailash Bihari Lal:** In view of the compulsory nature of the demand made by the District Magistrates even in the case of landlords who are head and ears in debt, to buy National Savings certificates in addition to paying land revenue, will not the Government of India interfere and put a stop to this practice?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** I do not think I can enter into details about the question whether individual landlords are able or are unable to make any investment at all. That is obviously one for the local officers to investigate and decide.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy:** Does not the Honourable Member recognise the deflationary effect which a proper use of the *lathi* might produce in certain cases?

**The Honourable Sir Jeremy Raisman:** Does not the Honourable Member recognise the deflationary effect which the application of a little common sense might produce in a statement on this subject?

**Dr. P. N. Banerjee:** Common sense is not the monopoly of the Government Benches.

**Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim):** The Honourable Member must not go on talking so loudly.

#### PRESS CONFERENCES.

**813. \*Mr. Ananga Mohan Dam:** (a) Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state the number of Press Conferences held during the preceding three years with the representatives of Press, and the newspapers and news agencies represented at the Conferences?

(b) Did Government incur any expenses on these Conferences? If so, to what amount?

(c) Were any expenses paid to the representatives of the newspapers and news agencies for attending these Conferences? If so, what is that?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** (a) 236. No record of the names of the newspapers and news agencies represented at the press conferences is kept, but almost all the important newspapers and news agencies were represented at all these press conferences.

(b) and (c). No.

(b) if so, his nationality, and the name of the commercial concern in which he is employed?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** (a) Yes.

(b) He is an Australian and is the Managing Director of the 20th Century Fox Corporation (India) Limited.

**Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** Will the Honourable Member supply a lacuna in the question and give the name of this gentleman?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** Mr. Newbury.

**Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh:** Are Government aware of the view of this House that no one should be appointed to Government service who comes from a country where Indian nationals are not properly treated?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** If my Honourable friend will kindly see the question he will find that he is an honorary adviser.

EXPENDITURE, ETC., ON THE *NEWS PARADE*.

818. \***Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) what the cost of production of a weekly issue of the *News Parade* is;

(b) how many cameramen with news-reel experience are employed in the task of the production of the *News Parade*, and what rates of pay, travelling expenses and daily *batta* are paid to these men;

(c) how many centres are covered by these cameramen; and

(d) whether these persons are amongst those engaged in directing and controlling these cameramen who have had previous news collecting and/or news editing experience?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** (a) This has not been worked out. The accounts relating to the production of newsreels and documentaries are maintained jointly and working out of the cost of individual weekly issues of *News Parade* will involve additional labour and expenditure which will not be commensurate with the result achieved.

(b) Eight. Each of them draws a salary of Rs. 500 p.m. and are given single second class fare for travelling allowance and a daily allowance of Rs. 6 per day while on tour.

(c) The cameramen are stationed in Bombay, Karachi, Madras, Calcutta, Lucknow, Lahore and Delhi and cover practically the whole of India.

(d) Yes. These cameramen only cover items in their specified areas and send the shots down to Bombay for processing, editing, dubbing and ultimate release.

**Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** Is the Honourable Member suggesting that Government are just carrying on this *News Parade* business and spending money on it without knowing what it costs and without measuring its utility in relation to its cost?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** They are fully aware of that.

**Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** But is the Honourable Member examining the position?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** It will be examined in due course.

**Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** Am I to understand that just at the moment the Honourable Member is allowing things to take their own course?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** We cannot look into accounts every day.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING DEPARTMENT AND THE "INFORMATION FILMS OF INDIA".

819. \***Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) the relationship between the Information and Broadcasting Department and the "Information Films of India";

(b) how many films with a propaganda value have been produced since the "Information Films of India" came into existence;

(c) the nature and extent of control exercised by the Information Films of India on the production of Information Films by private producers;

(d) what subsidy, if any, is given by Government to private producers of Information Films; and

(e) if the answer to (d) is in the affirmative, how many producers have had the benefit of this subsidy since this campaign began, and what was the total amount of money spent in this manner up to the 29th February, 1944?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** (a) Information Films of India is a subordinate organisation of the Information & Broadcasting Department.

(b) Information Films of India came into existence with effect from 2nd February 1943. Since then this organisation has produced 38 documentary shots, besides a weekly newsreel *Indian News Parade*, whose first issue appeared on 1st September 1943. No information is available as to what number of films have been produced by other organisations during this period.

(c) Nil.

(d) Nil.

(e) Does not arise.

#### RECRUITMENT OF EXPERTS FROM ENGLAND.

†820. **\*Mr. Ananga Mohan Das:** (a) Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state how experts are recruited for the Government of India in England?

(b) Are they appointed by the Secretary of State for India or by the High Commissioner?

(c) Are Government prepared to appoint a Committee from amongst the members of both the Houses to scrutinize the appointments of experts from abroad and to see whether they are needed? If not, why not?

**The Honourable Sir John Thorne:** (a) and (b). Recruitment of experts in England for posts which have not been specifically excluded from the sphere of consultation with the Federal Public Service Commission, is made by the Government of India through the High Commissioner for India, if advertisement in India through the Federal Public Service Commission has failed to produce candidates with the requisite qualifications. To fill highly technical appointments for which there is good reason to believe that qualified candidates may not be available in India, simultaneous advertisement is permissible with the consent of the Commission through the High Commissioner for India and through the Commission in India. For posts which are not to be filled in consultation with the Federal Public Service Commission, experts are recruited either through the India Office or through the High Commissioner for India; the appointments are made by the Secretary of State for India for the posts under his rule-making control and by the Government of India in other cases.

(c) Government do not consider the appointment of such a Committee necessary.

#### DISCONTINUANCE OF RECRUITMENT TO INDIAN MEDICAL DEPARTMENT (BRITISH CADRE).

821. **\*Mr. Frank E. Anthony:** Will the War Secretary be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware of the long distinguished record of service of the Indian Medical Department (British Cadre);

(b) whether further recruitment to the Indian Medical Department (British Cadre) has been discontinued;

(c) for what period this discontinuance of recruitment will operate;

(d) whether the closure of this department is an act of discrimination against the Anglo-Indian Community;

(e) whether he is aware that departmental promotions have been stopped and that senior personnel from the Indian Medical Department (British Cadre) now seconded to the I. A. M. C., and holding senior rank in the I. A. M. C., will be compelled to retire on the rank held by them at the commencement of hostilities; and

†Answer to this question laid on the table, the questioner having exhausted his quota.

## CLASSIFICATION OF ACCREDITED PRESS CORRESPONDENTS.

**814. \*Mr. Ananga Mohan Dam:** Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state:

(a) if it is a fact that Accredited Press Correspondents with the Government of India are grouped into two classes;

(b) if it is a fact that classification is made on their standing in profession and the status they have obtained; and

(c) the procedure prescribed by the Honourable Member or by his Department for the inquiry of the standing and status of an Accredited Press Correspondent before placing him in the group of those classifications; if no procedure has been prescribed, the reasons therefor?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The classification of the privileges of an accredited correspondent is made according to (i) the time a correspondent has spent and, or, the status he has attained in the profession, and (ii) the standing of the newspaper or news agency he represents.

(c) The standing and status of the correspondent concerned are determined by the Government on the advice of the Accreditation Sub-Committee of the Press Correspondents' Advisory Committee of the Information and Broadcasting Department, which ordinarily possesses all the necessary information; further enquiries are also made, where considered necessary.

**Sardar Mangal Singh:** What was the necessity for this classification?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** That cannot be stated in answer to a supplementary question. The point is this: there are certain correspondents who have got a high status, have more experience, represent a very large number of papers and make use of the materials supplied to them. There are, on the other hand, certain correspondents who do not make sufficient use of the material supplied to them. That is the reason why this classification has been made.

## RULES FOR WORKING OF PRESS CORRESPONDENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

**815. \*Mr. Ananga Mohan Dam:** Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting please state:

(a) the rules and regulations prescribed for the working and guidance of the Press Correspondents' Advisory Committee;

(b) the date on which the said Committee was formed;

(c) if it is a fact that out of the ten Press Correspondents nine are members of the Press Association (three by representation and six by nomination);

(d) if it is a fact that the Accredited Press Association is not represented either by representation or by nomination on the said Committee, if so, why;

(e) if it is a fact that there are two associations of the Press Correspondents—one is a registered body and the other has not yet been registered; if so, how they are styled, and the reason for not associating the Information and Broadcasting Department with the registered body;

(f) the reasons for giving preferences to an unregistered body over the registered body; and

(g) the policy of the Government for the recognition of unregistered Association against registered Association?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** (a) The following subjects *inter alia* and the questions arising out of them come under the purview of the Committee:

(i) The general principles of press advising, as far as Information and Broadcasting Department is responsible for them.

(ii) Delays in the transmission of press telegrams.

(iii) Questions relating to the release of news by Government Departments and the holding of press conferences.

(iv) Questions relating to facilities provided by the Bureau of Public Information.

No other rules and regulations are laid down for the guidance of the Committee.

(b) 28th August, 1943.

(c) No, Sir. The position is that, excluding the official members, there are 13 members of the Press Correspondents' Advisory Committee. Out of these 13 members, twelve are also members of the Press Association. Three of these 12 members have been appointed to the Press Correspondents' Advisory Committee as nominees of the Association. The rest of the members have been taken not as members of the Press Association but in their individual capacity on the basis of their relative status and standing in the profession.

(d) Yes. As regards the latter part, the Accredited Press Association being a comparatively recently started body, it was not considered necessary to include any representatives from it in the Committee. The names of individual members were, however, duly considered by me at the time of the constitution of the Press Correspondents' Advisory Committee.

(e) Yes, Sir. The two Associations are styled as the Accredited Press Association and the Press Association, the former is a registered body and the latter an unregistered body. The question of registration or otherwise of the Associations concerned was not taken into consideration because it was not important from the point of view of the Department. As the Press Association has a good standing and status and the Accredited Press Association is a newly established body, only the former was asked to nominate representatives for the Press Correspondents' Advisory Committee.

(f) and (g). Do not arise in view of the reply given to part (e) of the question.

**Mr. Lalchand Navalrai:** May I know whether this advisory committee is going to meet any more?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** My Honourable friend is rather wide of the mark. This committee is called every month.

#### OFFICERS IN CHARGE OF THE *INDIAN NEWS PARADE*.

816. \***Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of the *Indian News Parade* is in the charge of a non-Indian officer;

(b) if so, what his qualifications are for the post; and

(c) whether Government tried and were unable to get a suitable Indian for the post?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** (a) Yes.

(b) Before he was employed by Government, Mr. Moylan, the Director-in-Charge of the *Indian News Parade* was employed as Producer in Victory Pictures, at Madras by Mr. Vasan of Gemini Studios. He has considerable experience of film production and has produced full-length and short pictures for Indian commercial concerns and the Bengal and Madras Governments. He has also contributed newsreel items to the Government Newsreel and the quality of his contribution was always satisfactory.

(c) Yes. There was no qualified Newsreel man in India as there was no Indian Newsreel in the country. Several Indian producers and Directors were approached, but those who were suitable were not prepared to accept the job. Out of the persons who were willing Mr. Moylan was by far the best.

**Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh:** Had this gentleman any experience before being employed by Government?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** I have answered that.

**Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh:** How many years' experience had he?

**The Honourable Sir Sultan Ahmed:** That I cannot say.

#### EMPLOYMENT OF HONORARY ADVISER FOR NEWS-REEL PRODUCTION.

817. \***Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** Will the Honourable Member for Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are employing an honorary adviser to advise them about news-reel production; and

(e) that consolidated rates of pay granted to married Indian Commissioned Officers in other branches of the army are much more favourable in corresponding ranks;

(f) that previous reckonable service of V. C. Os. granted Emergency Commissions in other branches of the army counts towards pay, but, in the I. A. M. C., they are being granted antedate for experience, but long service in I.M.D. has not been remunerated, and licentiates with ten years and thirty years service and experience will get the same rank and pay of Rs. 500 per mensem;

(g) that only selected licentiates are considered for grant of Emergency Commissions in the rank of Second Lieutenants and are promoted as Lieutenants and Captains after six months and three years service, respectively, whereas all graduates become Captains after one year's service as Lieutenants; and

(h) that I. A. M. C. officers are on basic rates of pay but no marriage or lodging allowance has been paid to them?

**Mr. O. M. Trivedi:** (a) to (c), (e) and (f). Yes, Sir.

(d) Yes. The difference is based on the difference in basic medical qualifications.

(g) No. Any officer who is favourably reported on is promoted in accordance with the time scale of his Corps or Service, irrespective of whether he belongs to the Indian Medical Service or to the Indian Army Medical Corps. The difference in the time-scales referred to by the Honourable Member is due to the difference in basic qualifications.

(h) Officers of the Indian Army Medical Corps draw consolidated rates of pay and do not draw separate marriage or lodging allowance.

#### GRIEVANCES OF MEDICAL LICENTIATES GRANTED EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS.

**269. Mr. Ananga Mohan Dam:** (a) Will the War Secretary please state if it is a fact that I. A. M. C. officers have been granted Emergency Commissions from the 3rd April, 1943, and that representations have been made by various members of the I.M.D.? If so, do Government propose to consider the advisability of reviewing the whole case?

(b) Is it a fact that licentiates granted Emergency Commissions have not yet been given any administrative posts or have not been considered for staff appointments on the District, Command or General Headquarters?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** (a) Members of the late Indian Medical Department have been granted emergency commissions in the Indian Army Medical Corps from the 3rd April 1943. As regards the second part, the Honourable Member does not mention the nature of the representations, but representations have been received from some members of the late Indian Medical Department on a variety of subjects. These receive careful consideration.

(b) Administrative posts are given on merits and Indian Army Medical Corps Officers will be appointed to such posts when they are so recommended. No licentiate officer has been recommended so far.

#### STATEMENTS LAID ON THE TABLE

*Information promised in reply to part (a) of starred question No. 22, asked by Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Ghani, on the 8th November, 1943*

#### CURRENT LUGGAGE RULES ON STATE-MANAGED RAILWAYS

**I. Free Allowance on Luggage.**—(a) All luggage with the exception of articles mentioned in clause (b) below and luggage carried in full vehicle loads, must be weighed and booked at the starting station. The following free allowance for each ticket is given at the starting station on the total weight of the luggage :—

1st class	. . . . .	1½ maunds or 60 seers.
2nd class	. . . . .	40 seers.
Inter class	. . . . .	30 seers.
3rd class	. . . . .	25 seers.

and half these quantities is allowed for each child's (half) ticket.

**NOTE.**—Luggage may, however, be booked from any station to any station on the direct route for which a ticket is held, provided no luggage in excess of the free allowance is carried unbooked over any portion of the line, the free allowance being granted once on the journey.



(b) *Articles allowed free in addition to the free allowance.*

*First and Second Class Passengers.*—Bedding, tiffin baskets including small ice-boxes, small handbags or attache-cases (not suit cases), walking sticks and umbrellas.

*Intermediate and Third Class Passengers.*—Bedding, walking sticks, umbrellas and such articles of food as may be required on the journey.

(c) In case of excess luggage when the free allowance differs, on different railways charges should be calculated on the through distance allowing the free allowance in force on the booking railway.

(d) *Additional rules applying over B. & A., B., B. & C. I. & G. I. P. railways.*

Railway	Class of tickets	Free allowance granted	Remarks
B. & A. (i) A. B. Zone & Dacca Section of E. B. Zone.	(i) Upper class throughout (issued over the Dacca Section and A.B. Zone or in through booking with the D. S. Rly.)	50 seers	1. Half of these quantities will be allowed for each child's (half) ticket.
	(ii) Combined "Upper and first class" tickets, i.e. upper class over Dacca section and A. B. Zone, first class over E. B. Zone (excluding Dacca section) steamer services and other foreign railways.	60 seers	2. In the case of upper class passengers bedding, tiffin baskets including small ice-boxes, small hand bags or attache-cases (not suit cases) walking sticks and umbrellas are allowed free in addition to the free allowance.
	(iii) Combined "Upper and second class tickets, including first class over steamer" i.e. upper class over Dacca Section & A. B. Zone first class over steamer and second class over E. B. Zone (excluding Dacca Section) & other foreign Railways.	40 seers	
(ii) Khulna Bagerhat Section of B. & A. Rly.	Upper class Lower class Half of these quantities is allowed for each child's (half) ticket.	40 seers 20 seers	} In local booking on this Section.

**NOTE.**—In through booking between stations on the Khulna Bagerhat Railway and stations on the E. B. Zone and *via*, the same free allowance as on the E. B. Zone is granted according to the class of carriage travelled in over the E. B. Zone.

(iii) Dhobies are allowed to carry free of charge one bundle of E. B. Zone clothes not exceeding one maund in weight.

*B., B. & C. I.*—(i) The free allowance on Intermediate class combined (i.e., Intermediate and 3rd class combined) ticket is 30 seers per ticket.

(ii) The free allowance on the Narrow-gauge lines of the B., B. & C. I. Rly. is 60 seers per upper class ticket and 25 seers per lower class ticket.

(iii) The following free allowance is admissible in through booking between Main Line and the Narrow-gauge Lines:—

(1) On combined 1st and upper class tickets	per ticket.	60 seers.
(2) „ 2nd and upper class tickets	„	40 seers.
(3) „ Inter and lower class tickets	„	30 seers.
(4) „ Third and lower class tickets	„	25 seers.
(5) „ 1st and 2nd second class tickets	„	60 seers.

*G. I. P.*—(1) The free allowance on Intermediate class combined (i.e., Intermediate and third class combined) is 30 seers per ticket.

This applies in through booking with E. I. and M. & S. M. Railways only.

(2) The free allowance on the Central Provinces (including Pulgaon-Arvi Section), Dhond-Baramati and Pachora-Jamner Railways is as under:—

Upper class	60 seers.
Lower class	25 seers.

(f) whether he proposes to allow these senior men not only to attain the rank which they would have normally reached but to retire on the pension of such rank?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Further recruitment ceased on the formation of the Indian Army Medical Corps, except that existing Military Students who were formerly recruited into the Indian Medical Department, are still, in accordance with the terms of their bond, enrolled in the Indian Medical Department as Warrant Officers. They are being brought before a Selection Board and, if selected, are granted commissions in the Indian Medical Service and seconded to the Indian Army Medical Corps.

(c) For the period of the War, as contemplated at present.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f). On transfer to the Indian Army Medical Corps, regulations regarding promotion in the Indian Medical Department are no longer applicable, but the position in so far as the transferred personnel are concerned, is now being actively examined.

**Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh:** It has been said in reply to part (d) that the closure is not due to any act of discrimination against the Anglo-Indian community. May I know what it is due to?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** My Honourable friend perhaps remembers the whole history leading up to the formation of the Indian Army Medical Corps. Formerly licentiates were employed in the Medical Department. They are now recruited to the Indian Army Medical Corps and given commissions. The distinction between graduates and licentiates in the matter of the grant of commissions has now been abolished.

#### CLASSIFICATION OF KING'S COMMISSIONED OFFICERS.

**822. \*Mr. Frank E. Anthony:** (a) Will the War Secretary be pleased to state if it is not a fact that King's Commissioned Officers are classified as E. C. Os. 12 and 13?

(b) Is it not a fact that the category E. C. Os. 12 is supposed to comprise only persons of non-Asiatic domicile?

(c) Is the Honourable Member aware of the considerable differences in allowances paid to these two categories of officers?

(d) Is the Honourable Member aware that, while the officers of non-Asiatic domicile get an Indian Army allowance, house rent and marriage allowances, Indian Officers are denied these same allowances?

(e) Is the Honourable Member aware that because of the appreciable difference in emoluments of Indian and European officers, the Indian Officers find it difficult, if not impossible, to meet their financial commitments which are exactly the same as those of the European Officers?

(f) Does the Honourable Member propose to consider that the allowances paid to European Officers be also made available to the Indian King's Commissioned Officers?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** (a) No, Sir; but I presume the Honourable Member means Army Instructions (India) Nos. 12 and 13 of 1940, since superseded by Army Instructions (India) Nos. 73 and 74 of 1944. Instruction No. 73 provides for the grant of Emergency Commissions in His Majesty's Land Forces and Instruction No. 74 in His Majesty's Indian Land Forces.

(b) Army Instruction (India) No. 73 of 1944, which has superseded Army Instruction No. 12 of 1940, is applicable only to persons of pure European parentage and of Non-Asiatic domicile, who alone are eligible for the grant of emergency commissions in his Majesty's Land Forces.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative, except that Indian Army allowance is admissible only to officers serving with Indian Army units. As regards the latter part, Indian Commissioned Officers receive consolidated rates of pay, which include lodging allowance, while married officers get a higher rate of consolidated pay. Indian officers do not get the

Indian Army allowance which is an additional compensation admissible to British officers for permanent service in India.

(e) and (i). Representations have been received regarding the alleged inadequacy of the pay of Indian Commissioned Officers, and these are under consideration.

### UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

#### GRIEVANCES OF WARRANT OFFICERS, INDIAN MEDICAL DEPARTMENT, GIVEN EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS.

**267. Mr. Ananga Mohan Dam:** Will the War Secretary be pleased to state if it is a fact:

(a) that senior members ranking as Warrant Officers, I.M.D. (British Cadre) and Subedar Majors, I.M.D. (Indian Cadre), in category A, who were selected and granted Emergency Commissions in the I. A. M. C., lose considerably in monthly emolument even in the rank of Captain (not in pay) as compared with those not recommended and are in category B or C;

(b) that new entrants granted Emergency Commissions will get Rs. 400 per mensem, viz., double the old rate of pay, Rs. 75 plus emergency allowance of Rs. 125 per mensem;

(c) that living as an Emergency Commissioned officer is much more expensive than that of a Warrant Officer or a Subedar Major, and that free concessions enjoyed by V.C.Os., such as washing and hair cutting allowances, free rations and quarters, free light, water and conservancy service and clothing, free diet when admitted in hospital and a batman, will cost an Emergency Commissioned officer about Rs. 250 a month;

(d) that V. C. Os., I.M.D., granted Emergency Commissions are liable to reversion to old status on termination of emergency and that they would have been entitled to receive but will be debarred, while in service, from enjoying certain benefits such as award of O. B. I., grant of land for colonization and jagir allowance, etc.; and

(e) that most of the senior warrant officers and Subedar Majors would have been granted under old rules departmental or honorary King's Commission in the near future on the expanded cadre and, in addition, would have been entitled to receive certain free concessions and awards as enumerated in (c) and (d) above?

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi:** (a) Only a few senior Warrant Officers of the Indian Medical Department (British Cadre) who had reached the highest scale of pay in their rank and Department and who elected to draw their previous rates of pay after being commissioned, lose certain emoluments which are not permissible to commissioned officers. The great majority of Warrant Officers and Viceroy's Commissioned Officers, however, benefit by the grant of Emergency Commissions in the Indian Army Medical Corps.

(b) to (d) and (f). Yes, Sir.

(e) Yes, in a few cases.

#### GRIEVANCES OF MEDICAL LICENTIATES GRANTED EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS.

**268. Mr. Ananga Mohan Dam:** Will the War Secretary please state if it is a fact:

(a) that licentiates who have passed from medical schools in India have been granted antedate at the rate of three months for every completed year of service or experience up to a maximum of two and a half years, there being no difference in the period of antedate granted to men with ten or thirty years' experience;

(b) that for an officer who received his basic registrable qualification elsewhere than in India, the period of professional experience for the grant of antedate will reckon from the date of registration as a licentiate;

(c) that graduates have been granted up to a maximum of six and a half years' antedate;

(d) that licentiate officers have been given less pay in the second, fourth and sixth year as Captains as compared with I.M.S. officers, whereas there is no difference in the duty assigned to them;

electric trains subject to the conditions regarding their carriage in particular vehicles on these trains as notified in the exception to the G. I. P. Railway's rules for carriage of live poultry.

(4) Articles chargeable at half parcels rates when carried as luggage on the Suburban section should be charged as under :—

(i) If free allowance according to the class of tickets held by a passenger, is claimed, the luggage in excess of the free allowance should be charged for at the luggage rate, luggage ticket being issued.

(ii) If free allowance is not claimed, half parcels rate should be charged and bazar supplies tickets showing the amount of freight at half parcels rate may be issued.

(5) Wheat and sugar are carried as luggage provided the total weight of these articles does not exceed 2½ mds. on one ticket subject to any restrictions that have been or may be imposed by the Central or Provincial Governments or Local Authorities.

(6) Piece-goods, cotton, woollen, or artificial silk or silk are not carried as luggage. Passengers are, however, permitted to carry such articles with them as luggage with owner up to the limit of the free allowance admissible to them.

*N. W. Railway.*—The following articles are also not carried as luggage over the N. W. Railway, except when the total weight of such articles does not exceed the free allowance admissible on tickets held by passengers.

1. Piece-goods, cotton, woollen, or artificial silk or silk.
2. Gunnies.
3. Sugar.\*
4. Chillies.
5. Hides, skins and leather.
6. Cotton.
7. Wool.
8. Empty tins, barrels, drums, etc.
9. Grain and pulses.\*
10. Jagree.
11. Potatoes.

\*Wheat and sugar are carried as luggage on the N. W. Railway provided the total weight of these articles does not exceed 2½ mds. on one ticket subject to any restrictions that have been or may be imposed by the Central or Provincial Governments or Local Authorities.

*O. & T. Railway.*—The following articles are also not accepted as luggage :—

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. Piece-goods.        | 20. Grain.*   |
| 2. Gunnies.            | 21. Jagree.   |
| 3. Sugar.*             | 22. Sleepers.   |
| 4. Chillies.           | 23. Wooden articles such as wheels.                               |
| 5. Hides.              | 24. Furniture.  |
| 6. Skins.              | 25. Empty wooden boxes.   |
| 7. Cotton.             | 26. Bundles of matting, reeds and bamboos.                        |
| 8. Wool.               | 27. Tobacco raw or unmanufactured.                                |
| 9. Empty tins.         | 28. Carriages, bodies or wheels.                                  |
| 10. Barrels and drums. | 29. Rollers for sugar-cane mills.                                 |
| 11. Ghee.              | 30. Iron parts of Persian wheels.                                 |
| 12. Dry leaves.        | 31. Iron or steel or other base metals, in bars, sheets or ingts. |
| 13. Oils.              | 32. Hoops iron.   |
| 14. Bones.             | 33. Grass and Hay.  |
| 15. Timber.            | 34. Potatoes.   |
| 16. Firewood.          | 35. Turmeric.   |
| 17. Coal in bags.      | 36. Bundles of wire.  |
| 18. Paints.            |   |
| 19. Charpoys.          |   |

\*Sugar and wheat each or both are allowed up to 2½ mds. provided the total weight does not exceed the maximum limit due.

*Information promised in reply to unstarred question No. 81, asked by Mr. Kailash Bihari Lall, on the 26th February, 1944.*

#### LUGGAGE, ETC., OF PERSONNEL OF DEFENCE SERVICES CARRIED BY RAILWAYS AT GOVERNMENT RISK.

(a) and (b). Luggage and baggage, including excepted articles, are not carried by railways at Government risk, except for equipment, clothing (including personal clothing) and necessities which the individual may be required to replace at his own expense for military duties.

Government do not accept responsibility for the private possessions of a member of the Defence Services. Any individual who wishes to safeguard himself against loss of, or damage to his private property, can insure it as would any member of the public

*Information promised in reply to starred question No. 355, asked by Seth Yusuf Abdoola Haroon, on the 13th March, 1944.*

#### SELECTIONS FOR HIGHER GRADE PROMOTIONS IN KARACHI AND DELHI DIVISIONS.

(a) During 1943 five selections were held on the Karachi Division and eight on Delhi Division.

(b) 27 Hindus and 10 Muslims in the Karachi Division and 49 Hindus and 31 Muslims in the Delhi Division.

(c) None on the Karachi Division and six on the Delhi Division.

(d) Government consider that no action is necessary, as it is not always possible to comply fully with the rules in the matter with the present number of Muslim officers available. Moreover, all the Selection Boards on the Karachi Division included a Muslim officer who was not directly subordinate to the other members of the Selection Board; this also was the case in one of the Selection Boards on the Delhi Division.

*Information promised in reply to parts (c) and (f) of starred question No. 391, asked by Mr. K. S. Gupta, on the 14th March, 1944.*

#### COLOUR BAR IN KENYA.

(c) There is no truth in this allegation. The water supply at Mariakani is short and pending any improvement the existing supply is rationed for all races.

(f) The Import Control Organisation is guided by a Board consisting of six members, 3 of whom are European Government officials, two are European commercial men and one is an Indian who is also a member of the Legislative Council. The Control has 21 European Group advisers and two Indian Group advisers. One of the latter deals with Indian foodstuffs and the other with Indian Bazaar goods.

*Information promised in reply to starred question No. 528 asked by Khan Bahadur Shaikh Fazl-i-Haq Piracha, on the 20th March, 1944.*

#### COMMUNAL COMPOSITION OF THE STAFF OF INSPECTING ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF INCOME-TAX, AMRITSAR.

(a) The following is the composition of the personnel of the office of the Inspecting Assistant Commissioner of Income-tax at Amritsar :

Inspector-Accountant . . . . .	1 Hindu
Head-Clerk . . . . .	1 Hindu
Stenographer . . . . .	1 Hindu
Head-Assistant . . . . .	1 Muslim
Assistant-Clerks . . . . .	{ 2 Muslims 2 Sikhs

(b) Four of the seven Income-tax Officers stationed at Amritsar are temporary. It is not always possible to post permanent officers to particular stations as regard must be had to various factors such as the dearth of permanent officers, the existence of arrears calling for the appointment of temporary officers, the ban on permanent appointments with a view to the appointment of war candidates, etc. As regards the latter part of the question, it is presumed that the Honourable Member is referring to the Inspecting Assistant Commissioner's office at Amritsar. If so, the position is that appointments in the Income-tax Department to both temporary and permanent posts are made in accordance with the instructions issued by the Government of India from time to time regarding communal representation and that postings of individual officers are made in the best interests of the Department as a whole.

*Information promised in reply to a supplementary question to starred question No. 575, asked by Mr. Amarendra Nath Chattopadhyaya, on the 22nd March, 1944.*

#### UNANI AND OTHER SYSTEMS AS PART OF SCHEME FOR IMPROVING MEDICAL HELP TO MASSES.

In connection with post war reconstruction plans the Government of India have appointed a Committee, to be known as the Health Survey and Development Committee, to make a broad survey of the present position in regard to health conditions and health organisation in British India and to make recommendations for future development.

A drive to improve health conditions must necessarily be in the forefront of any programme directed towards improving the standard of living in the post war period. If dissipation of financial resources and administrative effort is to be avoided, plans for the improvement of health organization must be based on a comprehensive review of the health problem as a whole which will take account of, and place in their proper perspective, all the various factors affecting the health of the community with which health administration is concerned. The Government of India believe that a broad survey of the whole health field by a central committee will be of considerable assistance to Governments in preparing their post war programmes and that the time has come when, in spite of the difficulties arising from war conditions, such a review must be undertaken.

The Committee appointed includes persons with practical experience of preventive public health work, medical relief, medical and public health education, industrial health conditions and other aspects of the health problem. The Committee will have power to appoint sub-committees to make preliminary inquiries into particular aspects of the problem. The procedure of the Committee will necessarily have to be adapted to war conditions and it will not be possible for the Committee as a whole to make tours of inquiry but it will be open

(3) The free allowance in through booking between the Main Line and the Feeder Lines is as follows :—

	per ticket.
(i) On combined 1st and upper class tickets . . . . .	60 seers.
(ii) „ 2nd and upper class tickets . . . . .	40 seers.
(iii) „ Inter and lower class tickets . . . . .	30 seers.
(iv) „ Third and lower class tickets . . . . .	25 seers.

**NOTE**—The Feeder Lines over the G. I. P. Railway are :—

1. *Central Provinces Railways*—

(i) Murtazapur-Ellichpur.

(ii) Murtazapur-Yeotmal.

(iii) Pulgaon-Arvi.

2. *Dhond-Baramati Railway.*

3. *Pachora-Jamner Railway.*

(4) The following is the free allowance between Main Line and Branch\* Line :—

(i) Combined 1st and 2nd class, *i.e.*, 1st class on the Main Line and 2nd class on the Branch Line concerned—60 seers.

(ii) Combined 2nd and 1st *i.e.*, 2nd class on the Branch Line and 1st class on the Main Line—60 seers.

\*NOTE—The following are the branch lines of the G. I. P. Rly.—

1. Manmad-Dhond.

2. Chalisgaon-Dhulia.

3. Itarsi-Nagpur.

4. Amla-Parasia.

5. Bhopal-Ujjain.

6. Bina-Kotah.

7. Bina-Katni.

8. Jhansi-Cawnpore Central.

9. Ait-Kunch.

10. Jhansi-Manikpur.

11. Jalamb-Khamgaon.

12. Badnera-Amraoti.

13. Wardha-Balharshah.

14. Majri-Rajur.

15. Tadali-Ghugus.

16. Karjat-Khopoli.

(5) Half of the quantities mentioned in (1) to (4) above is allowed free for each child's (half) ticket.

11. *Maximum quantity of luggage accepted per passenger.*—

(a) First class . . . . .	6 mds.
Second class . . . . .	4 mds.
Inter class . . . . .	3 mds.
Third class . . . . .	2½ mds.

(b) *Additional Rules applying over B. & A. Railway*

Upper class . . . . .	5 mds.
First class-Cum-Upper class . . . . .	6 mds.
Second class-Cum-Upper class . . . . .	4 mds.

III. *Weightment of luggage at the time of booking.*—The following procedure is adopted in the matter of weightment and booking of passenger's luggage :—

(a) *First weightment.*—All articles of luggage brought by passengers are weighed to see that the total weight does not exceed the maximum limit mentioned in Rule II above.

(b) *Second weightment.*—Bedding, tiffin baskets etc., which are allowed free, *vide* (I) (bb) above, are excluded and the remaining articles of luggage are weighed for the purpose of charging freight after deducting the amount of free allowance due.

IV. *Articles not accepted as luggage.*—(a) The following articles are not booked as luggage :—

(1) Offensive articles, such as wet skins, hides, etc., other than the skins of wild animals securely packed in air-tight boxes at owner's risk.

(2) Explosives, dangerous and inflammable articles.

(3) Bulky articles of any description which on account of their bulk would be chargeable on measurement if accepted as parcels.

(4) Oil grease, ghee, paint, etc., if carried in packages which might by contact, breakage or leakage, damage other articles.

(b) *Additional Rules applying over individual railways.*

*B. & A. Railway.*—The following articles are also not booked as luggage :—

(a) Poultry and live-stock.

(b) 1. Bididi leaves.

2. Bundles of matting, Reeds and bamboos.

3. Bundles of wire.
4. Carriage bodies and wheels.
5. Charpoys.
6. Chillies, dry.
7. Coal and Charcoal in bags.
8. Cotton.
9. Cycles in crates.
10. Dry leaves.
11. Empty tins, barrels and drums.
12. Empty wooden boxes.
13. Firewood.
14. Grain.
15. Grass and Hay.
16. Gunnies.
17. Hand carts.
18. Hoops Iron.
19. Iron parts of persian wheels.
20. Iron, steel and other base metal in bars, sheets or ingots.
21. Jagree.
22. Metal scrap.
23. Piece-goods.
24. Potatoes.
25. Rollers for sugar-cane machine.
26. Skins.
27. Sleepers.
28. Sugar.
29. Timber.
30. Tobacco, raw or unmanufactured.
31. Turmeric.
32. Wooden articles such as well wheels.
33. Wool.

*Exceptions.*—(i) Sugar, wheat and rice will be accepted for booking as luggage when weighing not more than 2½ maunds together or separately.

(ii) Piece-goods will be accepted for booking as luggage over this Railway between stations 50 miles apart or under subject to the maximum weight permissible per passenger *vide* Rule II.

(iii) Personal effects of Government officials on transfer.

(iv) Kits of free pass-holders.

*B., B. & C. I. Railway.*—(1) Bicycles are not carried as luggage.

(2) Ghee should not be booked as luggage from any station on the B., B. & C. I. Railway situated within the Jaipur State territories.

(3) Opium exceeding one maund in weight cannot be booked as luggage; it must be booked as parcels. Opium in small quantities, not exceeding one maund in weight may be booked as luggage but it must be charged for and given in charge of the guard of the train.

(4) Wheat and sugar are carried as luggage provided the total weight of these articles does not exceed 2½ mds. on one ticket subject to any restrictions that have been or may be imposed by the Central or Provincial Governments or Local Authorities.

(5) Piece-goods, cotton, woollen, or artificial silk or silk are not carried as luggage. Passengers are, however, permitted to carry such articles with them as luggage with owner up to the limit of the free allowance admissible to them.

*E. I. Railway.*—The following commodities as defined in General Classification of goods are also not booked as luggage :—

1. Piece-goods.
2. Gunnies.
3. Empty tins, barrels, drums.
4. Jagree.
5. Potatoes.
6. Charpoys (not in pieces).
7. Furniture.
8. Jute.
9. Wheat and sugar in excess of 2½ maunds made up of either or both these commodities.
10. Grain and Pulses other than in (9) above.

*G. I. P. Railway.*—(1) Small quantities of ghee and edible oil (i.e., oil fit for consumption) within the limit of free allowance according to the class of ticket held by the passenger may be carried free with owners. In the case of free allowance being exceeded the whole weight will be charged at full parcels rates without any free allowance.

(2) Butter packed in soldered tins or other metallic vessels securely closed on all sides may be accepted as luggage, the usual free allowance being given. Butter when not packed as stated above will not be accepted as luggage.

(3) Live birds up to two in number are allowed to be carried free of charge as luggage with passengers over the Bombay Suburban section (including the Harbour and Kurla Mankhurd branches); Live turkeys, geese, ducks or other poultry in hampers, baskets or coops and accompanying the owner can also be carried free as luggage only if within the free allowance over the Bombay Suburban Kalyan-Kasara and Kalyan-Karjat sections, by local

## DECLARATIONS OF EXEMPTION UNDER THE REGISTRATION OF FOREIGNERS ACT.

**The Honourable Sir John Thorne** (Home Member): Sir, I lay on the table copies of the following Declarations of Exemption under the proviso to section 6 of the Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939, as published with the notifications of the Government of India in the Home Department:

- (1) No. 1/6/44-Political (E), dated 8th February 1944;
- (2) No. 1/7/44-Political (E), dated 11th February 1944;
- (3) No. 1/8/44-Political (E), dated 11th February 1944;
- (4) No. 1/9/44-Political (E), dated 23rd February 1944;
- (5) No. 1/12/44-Political (E), dated 26th February 1944;
- (6) No. 1/13/44-Political (E), dated 11th March 1944; and
- (7) No. 1/14/44-Political (E), dated 13th March 1944.

No. 1/6/44-Political (E).

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.  
HOME DEPARTMENT.

*Simla, the 8th February 1944.*

### DECLARATION OF EXEMPTION.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 6 of the Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939 (XVI of 1939), the Central Government is pleased to declare that the provisions of the Registration of Foreigners Rules, 1939, except rule 8 and such of the provisions of rules 4, 14, 15 and 16 as apply to, or in relation to, passengers and visitors who are not foreigners, shall not apply to or in relation to (1) Mr. John C. DeWilde, (2) Mr. Charles Barney Gould Murphy, Regional Representative, India, Recruitment and Manning Organisation, United States War Shipping Administration, United States nationals, for so long as they remain in their present posts.

A. W. LOVATT,

*Under Secretary to the Government of India*

No. 1/7/44-Political (E).

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.  
HOME DEPARTMENT.

*Simla, the 11th February, 1944.*

### DECLARATION OF EXEMPTION.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 6 of the Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939 (XVI of 1939), the Central Government is pleased to declare that the provisions of the Registration of Foreigners Rules, 1939, except rule 8 and such of the provisions of rules 4, 14, 15 and 16 as apply to, or in relation to, passengers and visitors who are not foreigners, shall not apply to, or in relation to,

(1) Mr. William Burns, Technical Adviser on mining matters to the United States Foreign Economic Administration;

(2) Mr. Charles R. Arrott, Assistant to the Chief of the United States Purchasing Commission; and

(3) Mr. John Harold Lindley, Port Representative of the United States War Shipping Administration,

for so long as they remain in their present posts.

A. W. LOVATT,

*Under Secretary to the Government of India.*

No. 1/8/44-Poll. (E).

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.  
HOME DEPARTMENT.

*Simla, the 11th February, 1944.*

### DECLARATION OF EXEMPTION.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 6 of the Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939 (XVI of 1939), the Central Government is pleased to declare that the Provisions of the Registration of Foreigners Rules, 1939, except rule 8 and such of the provisions of rules 4, 14, 15 and 16 as apply to, or in relation to, passengers and visitors who are not foreigners, shall not apply to, or in relation to, Mr. Robert Kloiman, a member of the staff of the U.S. Office of War Information in India, for so long as he remains in that post.

A. W. LOVATT,

*Under Secretary to the Government of India.*



No. 1/9/44-Poll. (E).

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

*Simla, the 23rd February, 1944.*

## DECLARATION OF EXEMPTION.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 6 of the Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939 (XVI of 1939), the Central Government is pleased to declare that the provisions of the Registration of Foreigners Rules, 1939, except rule 8 and such of the provisions of rules 4, 14, 15 and 16 as apply to, or in relation to, passengers and visitors who are not foreigners, shall not apply to, or in relation to, (1) Messrs. John M. Steaves and Adolph Suehsdorf, Assistant Representatives of the Overseas Operations Branch of the U.S. Office of War Information, (2) Mr. Murray Dyer, Asst. Representative of the U.S. Office of War Information in charge of the radio broadcasting services. (3) Mr. Ben T. Stevenson, Junior Air Cargo Clerk in the U.S. Foreign Economic Administration in India, and (4) Mr. Raymond J. Sadlier, Air Cargo Expeditor in the U.S. Foreign Economic Administration in India, United States nationals, for so long as they remain in their present posts.

A. W. LOVATT,

*Under Secretary to the Government of India.*

No. 1/12/44-Poll. (E).

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

*Simla, the 26th February, 1944.*

## DECLARATION OF EXEMPTION.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 6 of the Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939 (XVI of 1939), the Central Government is pleased to declare that the provisions of the Registration of Foreigners Rules, 1939, except rule 8 and such of the provisions of rules 4, 14, 15 and 16 as apply to, or in relation to, passengers and visitors who are not foreigners, shall not apply to, or in relation to,

1. Mr. Wang Sheh-Chieh.
2. Dr. Hau Li-Wu.
3. Dr. Wen Yuanning.
4. Mr. Wang Yun-Wu.
5. Mr. Hu Lin.
6. Dr. Lee Wei Kuo.

members of the Chinese Goodwill Mission to the United Kingdom.

A. W. LOVATT,

*Under Secretary to the Government of India.*

No. 1/13/44-Poll. (E).

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

*Simla, the 11th March, 1944.*

## DECLARATION OF EXEMPTION.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 6 of the Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939 (XVI of 1939), the Central Government is pleased to declare that the provisions of the Registration of Foreigners Rules, 1939, except rule 8 and such of the provisions of rules 4, 14, 15, and 16 as apply to, or in relation to, passengers and visitors who are not foreigners, shall not apply to, or in relation to, Mrs. Zelma S. Graham, Confidential Secretary in the United States Office of War Information, New Delhi, for so long as she remains in her present post.

A. W. LOVATT,

*Under Secretary to the Government of India.*

No. 1/14/44-Poll. (E).

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

HOME DEPARTMENT.

*Simla, the 13th March, 1944.*

## DECLARATION OF EXEMPTION.

In exercise of the powers conferred by section 6 of the Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939 (XVI of 1939), the Central Government is pleased to declare that the provisions of the Registration of Foreigners Rules, 1939, except rule 8 and such of the provisions of rules 4, 14, 15 and 16 as apply to, or in relation to, passengers and visitors who are not foreigners, shall not apply to, or in relation to, (i) Mr. Francis J. O'Gara, Foreign Representative of the Recruitment and Manning Organization of the U.S.A. in India and (ii) Mr. Frank J. Hightower, a clerk in the U.S. Mission, United States nationals, for so long as they remain in their present posts.

A. W. LOVATT,

*Under Secretary to the Government of India.*

to the Committee to have local inquiries made by small groups or sub-committees when such inquiries are essential for the adequate discharge of their task.

The composition of the Committee, will be as follows:—

*Chairman:* Sir Joseph Bhore, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., C.B.E.

*Members:*

1. Rai Bahadur Dr. A. C. Banerjee, C.I.E., M.B., B.S.(All.), D.P.H., Director of Public Health, U.P.
  2. K. B. Dg. Abdul Hamid Butt, M.B., B.S.(Pb.), D.P.H.(Lond.), D.T.M. & H.(Eng.), Director of Public Health, Punjab.
  3. Dr. R. B. Chandrachud, M.B. B.S., F.R.C.S., Chief Medical Officer, Baroda State.
  4. Lt.-Col. E. Cotter, C.I.E., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Public Health Commissioner with the Government of India,
  5. Dr. D. Y. B. Dadhoboy, M.D., M.R.C.P. (Lond.), Ex-President of the All-India Association of Medical Women, Bombay.
  6. Dr. J. B. Grant, B.A., M.D., M.P.H., International Health Division of the Rockefeller Foundation, Director, All India Institute of Hygiene & Public Health, Calcutta.
  7. Dr. Mohammad Abdul Hamid, M.D., M.R.C.P., Member of the Medical Council of India, Professor of Pathology, Lucknow University.
  8. Col. J. B. Hance, C.I.E., O.B.E., M.D., B.Ch. (Camb.) M.R.C.S., F.R.C.S. (Edin.), Director General, Indian Medical Service.
  9. Sir Henry Holland, C.I.E., M.B., Ch.B., F.R.C.S. (E.), C.M.S., Hospital, Quetta.
  10. Sir Frederick James, O.B.E., M.L.A., Member, Central Advisory Board of Health.
  11. N. M. Joshi, Esquire, M.L.A.
  12. Dr. H. M. Lazarus, F.R.C.S. (Edin.), C.M.O., Women's Medical Service.
  13. Pandit L. K. Maitra, M.L.A., Member, Central Advisory Board of Health.
  14. Diwan Bahadur Dr. A. Lakshmanswami Mudaliar, B.A., M.D., F.C. O.G., Vice-Chancellor, University of Madras Member of the Medical Council of India.
  15. Dr. U. B. Narayanrao, L.C.P.S. (Bomb.), Medical Practitioner, Bombay, President, All-India Medical Licentiate's Association.
  16. Dr. B. Vishwa Nath, M.A., M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H., F.R.C.P., Member of the Medical Council of India, Medical Practitioner, Lahore.
  17. Maj.-Gen. W. C. Paton, M.C., M.A., M.B., Ch. B. (Edin.), F.R.C.S. (Edin.), Surgeon-General, Bengal.
  18. B. Shiva Rao, Esq.
  19. Dr. B. C. Roy, M.R.C.P., F.R.C.S., President of the Medical Council of India.
  20. The Honourable Pandit P. N. Saprú, Member, Council of State, Member, Central Advisory Board of Health.
  21. Lt.-Col. B. Z. Shah, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., I.M.S. (Retd.), Superintendent, Mental Hospital, Poona, formerly Director of Medical Services, Sind.
  22. Mrs. Shuffi Tyabji, J.P., K.I.H., Bombay.
  23. Dr. Hemandas R. Wadhvani, M.B., B.S., K.I.H., J.P., Minister, Sind.
- Secretary:* Rao Bahadur Dr. K. C. K. E. Raja, L.M.S. (Mad.), L.R.C.P. & S., L.R.F.P.S. (Edin. and Glas.), D.P.H. (Camb.) and D.T.M. & H. (Camb.).

*Department of Education, Health and Lands:*

New Delhi, October 18, 1943.

*Information promised in reply to unstarred question No. 173, asked by Mr. Muhammad Azhar Ali, on the 23rd March, 1944.*

**PLACING CERTAIN BARRACKS OUT OF BOUNDS FOR PERSONNEL OF TRANSPORTATION TRAINING CENTRE, JULLUNDUR.**

The answer to the first part is in the negative. The latter part does not therefore arise.

#### MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT.

**ATROCITIES PERPETRATED ON INDIAN MEN AND WOMEN BY TROOP STATIONED AT CHAKULIA NEAR JAMSHEDPOOR.**

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The adjournment motion which was admitted yesterday will be taken up at Four of the Clock.

**Dr. P. N. Banerjee** (Calcutta Suburbs: Non-Muhammadan Urban): Sir, if the business is finished earlier . . .

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): I understand the Government Member is not agreeable to its being taken up before 4 o'clock.

**Mr. C. M. Trivedi** (Secretary, War Department): Yes, Sir. I do not agree to its being taken up before 4 o'clock.

**An Honourable Member:** 4 o'clock will also come!

LOSS OF RAILWAY REVENUE DUE TO NOT CHARGING FARE AND FREIGHT ON CERTAIN  
MILITARY SPECIAL TRAINS.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): I have received notice of a motion for adjournment from Sir Zia Uddin Ahmad in order to discuss a matter of urgent public importance, namely, the loss of Railway revenue amounting to about one crore of rupees for not charging railway fare and freight on military special trains originating from Karachi and Bombay and carrying troops and munition from America and a further failure in not pursuing the right method for the recovery of the amount.

The Honourable Member was good enough to send me a note along with the motion, but as that is not allowed I shall take no notice of it.

Does the Government object?

**The Honourable Sir Edward Benthall** (Member for Railways and War Transport): Yes, Sir. I submit that this is not a matter of urgent public importance since it has already been before the House. I answered a question with a number of sub-headings on either the 29th of last month or the 3rd of this month and dealt with supplementaries, I think.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): On the 3rd of this month?

**The Honourable Sir Edward Benthall**: Either on the 29th of March or on the 3rd of this month. I cannot say definitely as I have not got the file with me. I answered the question in full and stated that there had been a departmental under-charge of 101 lakhs, of which 52½ lakhs had already been adjusted. I forget whether I said that I was looking into the matter further, but that is the fact and I am taking up the question with the Financial Commissioner, Railways.

**Dr. Sir Zia Uddin Ahmad** (United Provinces Southern Divisions: Muhammadan Rural): Is it not a fact that the officer who discovered this thing has been sacked?

**The Honourable Sir Edward Benthall**: No, Sir.

**Dr. Sir Zia Uddin Ahmad**: Is it not a fact that he is transferred from that post?

**The Honourable Sir Edward Benthall**: I think the officer has been transferred, but it has nothing to do with the incident in question.

**Dr. Sir Zia Uddin Ahmad**: Will the Honourable Member make enquiries into the matter?

**The Honourable Sir Edward Benthall**: I have said that I will make enquiries.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member is really going into some other subsidiary matters which is not the object of the adjournment motion. I disallow the motion.

ELECTION OF A MEMBER TO THE CENTRAL ADVISORY COUNCIL  
FOR RAILWAYS.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): I have to inform the Assembly that up to 12 Noon on Tuesday, the 4th April, the time fixed for receiving nominations for the election of a member to the Central Advisory Council for Railways only one nomination was received. As there is only one vacancy I declare Mr. H. M. Abdullah to be duly elected.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE  
FOOD DEPARTMENT.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): I have also to inform the Assembly that the following Members have been elected to the Standing Committee for the Food Department: (1) Hajee Chowdhury Muhammad Ismail Khan, (2) Mr. E. L. C. Gwilt, (3) Pandit Nilakantha Das, (4) Mr. C. P. Lawson, (5) Mr. S. C. Chatterji, (6) Mr. Amarendra Nath Chattopadhyaya, (7) Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh, (8) Sved Ghulam Bhik Nairang, (9) Sir Abdul Halim Ghuznavi and (10) Sardar Sant Singh.

## THE HINDU CODE, PART II (MARRIAGE).

### NOMINATION OF MEMBERS TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE.

**The Honourable Sir Asoka Roy** (Law Member): Sir, I move:

"That the following Members of the Legislative Assembly be nominated to serve on the Joint Committee to consider and report on the Bill to codify the Hindu Law relating to marriage, namely: (1) Lalchand Navalrai, (2) Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh, (3) Babu Baijnath Bajoria, (4) Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra, (5) Pandit Nilakantha Das, (6) Mr. Ananga Mohan Dam, (7) Mrs. Renuka Ray, (8) Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang, and (9) the Mover."

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The question is:

"That the following Members of the Legislative Assembly be nominated to serve on the Joint Committee to consider and report on the Bill to codify the Hindu Law relating to marriage, namely: (1) Mr. Lalchand Navalrai, (2) Mr. Govind V. Deshmukh, (3) Babu Baijnath Bajoria, (4) Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra, (5) Pandit Nilakantha Das, (6) Mr. Ananga Mohan Dam, (7) Mrs. Renuka Ray, (8) Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang, and (9) the Mover."

The motion was adopted.

### MOTION RE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENT—*contd.*

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The House will now resume discussion on the motion moved by Sir Azizul Huque.

**Dr. P. N. Banerjee** (Calcutta Suburbs: Non-Muhammadan Urban): Sir, I am as much an internationalist as a nationalist and when any scheme for international co-operation and collaboration comes before me it is always welcome. When such a scheme refers to humanitarian activities it is doubly welcome to me. But we cannot forget the circumstances in which India exists at present. When the Government of India is not responsible to the people of India and does not represent the views of the country, when the international status of the country is very uncertain, when the people of India are so poor as to be on the verge of starvation—in these circumstances it is essential that before we undertake to co-operate with other countries certain safeguards should be provided in order that the interests of India may not suffer.

Now, Sir, an occasion arose last year for providing such safeguards. But it is unfortunate that before there was an agreement between the United Nations and India, before the final terms of this agreement were settled, the Government of India did not obtain the views of the Legislature on this very important question. Yesterday, in reply to certain points raised from this side of the House, my Honourable friend, the Commerce Member, said that some time ago a Resolution was placed before this House but as the question had not been finally decided, no steps were taken to ascertain the views of this House. When the matter was under discussion in America and in the United Kingdom, that was the proper occasion for ascertaining the views of this House and for forwarding these views to those Governments. The failure of the Government of India to take steps in time in regard to such an important question is worthy of very strong condemnation. At the present moment, it may be argued that demands which are put forward by us or any recommendations which are made by us would be too late. I do not hold that view. The agreement is there, of course, but if we make recommendations, our recommendations may be accepted by the United Nations and embodied in the form of resolutions.

Sir, we find two booklets have been supplied to us. The first booklet deals with the agreement and the second booklet deals with the resolutions. As regards the resolutions, the final stage has not yet arrived. Therefore, if we urge that these recommendations should be accepted by the United Nations, then I do not think there will be any difficulty in their way of accepting them.

Sir, many points have been discussed from the side of the Opposition in this connection and two amendments have been moved. The amendment by two Honourable Members of my party deserves very special consideration. This is not a demand which is to be forwarded to the United Nations. This is a demand which has to be acceded to by the Government of India itself, and I hope and trust that in view of the fact that the demand is so reasonable and so modest, the Government of India will accept this amendment. As

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regards the demand moved by Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang, that also is a very reasonable demand and this can be forwarded to the United Nations as a recommendation from this House. Sir, I will go a little further and make a few more recommendations to the United Nations. In the first place . . .

**Pandit Nilakantha Das** (Orissa Division: Non-Muhammadan): Is there a quorum in the House?

(The Bell was rung and some Members came in and on a count being taken there was found to be a quorum.)

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): The Honourable Member can go on now.

**Dr. P. N. Banerjee:** It is extremely unfair that such an important resolution should have been placed on the agenda as the last item, especially when the House is about to close for the Session and Members are arranging for their departure. That is the reason why there was no quorum in this House. This important resolution should have been placed for discussion long ago during the early part of this Session.

Sir, I was suggesting that some more points should be forwarded to the United Nations as recommendations from this House. My first point is that India's international status should be the same as that of the other United Nations. In this connection I may point out that very often it is held in many quarters that India's international status is inferior to that of other countries. Only a few days ago it was pointed out from the Government Benches that to some of the conferences India's representatives go only as visitors or as advisers. I want to make sure that with regard to this matter at least India's international status should be regarded as fully equal to that of the United Nations.

Sir, my second point is that India should be duly represented not only on the Council of the U.N.R.R.A. but also on all the relevant committees, that is, those with which India would be concerned. Yesterday one of my Honourable friends pointed out that on some of the committees India is not represented at the present moment and that state of things should be remedied.

Thirdly, India's contribution to the U.N.R.R.A. should be definitely fixed. There is a great deal of uncertainty about the amount which India will have to contribute. In the resolutions which have been adopted, it is laid down that a country's contribution will be based on its national income. Now, so far as I know, India's national income has never been computed officially. There are certain unofficial computations, but these are not trustworthy.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque** (Member for Commerce and Industries and Civil Supplies): Including Professor Rao's?

**Dr. P. N. Banerjee:** Yes. When did he become such an authority that his computation is to be accepted as final by everybody including the Government? He is an individual, and if you are willing to accept this view of his, are you willing to accept all the other views that have been expressed by him? You will accept only those views . . .

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): Order, order. The Honourable Member should address the Chair.

**Dr. P. N. Banerjee:** . . . Views expressed by him as will suit the Government. But that will not do. I say with the greatest emphasis that India's national income has not been satisfactorily computed by anybody. Mere guesses have been made, but on mere guesses and conjectures we cannot base our contribution.

In this connection I may read out a few lines from the debate which took place in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee of the United States of America. I must frankly admit that the American people are more sympathetic than the British people with regard to India. There it was pointed out by Dean Acheson that the basis of one per cent. of national income in the year 1943 would act as a great hardship on India. Mr. Acheson said that it was not a fair basis for determining India's participation. He observed that on that basis India would have to contribute a very large sum amounting to no-

less than 40 crores of rupees. He also pointed out that individual income in India was very low. He further added that India was in the grip of a terrible famine, which fact would tend to modify the extent of her participation. Now, Sir, in view of the sympathetic attitude taken up by some of the prominent members of the United States Senate, if we urge that India's contribution should be fixed on the basis of her capacity to pay, I do not think that any harm will ensue. On the other hand, a great deal of good will come. But if we do not say anything with regard to our contribution, a heavy burden will be placed on our shoulders and our case will go by default. Therefore, I insist that India's contribution should be fixed on the basis of one per cent. of India's net central revenue for the pre-war normal year 1938-39. That would be a fair basis and that would be a basis which would be consistent with India's capacity to pay.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** I have not been able to catch my Honourable friend.

**Dr. P. N. Banerjea:** One per cent. of the net central revenue of the Government of India for the pre-war normal year 1938-39.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** What do you mean by net central revenue?

**Dr. P. N. Banerjea:** The Honourable the Finance Member will be able to tell you what is net central revenue.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** What do you mean by that?

**Dr. P. N. Banerjea:** Net central revenue, not gross. I may tell my Honourable friend that there is a great deal of difference between gross revenue and net revenue, and what I am speaking of is net revenue.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** How much is that?

**Dr. P. N. Banerjea:** Net revenue in the normal year 1938-39 amounted to less than Rs. 80 crores—I am speaking from memory—so that one per cent. of that would amount to 80 lakhs.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** One per cent. of 80 crores is 80 lakhs?

**Dr. P. N. Banerjea:** Yes. I hope my Honourable friend will not interrupt me in this way. I did not interrupt him. I do not mind occasional interruptions, but this is a very easy calculation—one per cent. of 80 crores is 80 lakhs. That is a matter of simple arithmetic, and ought to be easily understood by every Member of this House. I think that would be a fair basis. We should not go into the uncertain basis of national income which will impose a very heavy—unduly heavy—burden on the shoulders of the people of India, especially at a time when the people are on the verge of starvation. If we make out a good case, if we are able to forward our case with all the arguments behind it, I think we will have a fair hearing.

The fourth point that I wish to raise is this. If the contributions of the participating countries be in kind instead of in cash, India's participation should be restricted to the export of such goods as are not needed for the essential purposes of the people or as are in surplus of the country's needs. This is very important from our point of view because we know that in regard to foodgrains India is in deficit and famine conditions are prevailing in the country even at the present moment. Therefore, no foodgrains should be exported from this country to other countries for the purpose of relief and rehabilitation in those countries.

Lastly, I suggest—this is also included in the amendment of which notice has been given by Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang—that proper arrangements should be made for relief and rehabilitation measures for the people of Bengal and Assam who have suffered from the recent famine and from enemy attacks in many areas as a consequence of the war. Up till the last fortnight India was not actually within the war zone. But even then India's sufferings were very great as a result of the recent famine which was one of the consequences of the war and the result of bombing in various parts of the country. Now the situation is changed and the enemy is within the borders of India. We read also

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in the papers that there is anxiety for the safety of the Bay of Bengal. In these circumstances we should insist that proper measures for relief and rehabilitation for the affected parts of India should be made. If we don't do that, later on it may be said that India did not insist on this and our case will again go by default.

Sir, the question has been dealt with at length by the various speakers and I do not wish to detain the House very much longer but I will say in conclusion that with regard to this matter at least the Government will show that they are responsible to the desires of the people of this country, because it does not affect their purse, their prestige, their power and their position. In such respects, at least, they should defer to our wishes and what we want is this—that the amendment which has been moved by my Honourable friend, Mr. Krishnamachari, should be adopted and the five other suggestions which I have made should be forwarded to the United Nations as the recommendations made by this House. This should be forwarded not only in a formal manner but with the strong recommendation of the Government of India.

**Nawabzada Muhammad Liaquat Ali Khan** (Rohilkund and Kumaon Divisions. Muhammadan Rural): Mr. President, there is not very much that I have to say in connection with the motion which is for discussion before this Honourable frined, Mr. Nairang. The object of this amendment is would not support any proposal which is intended to alleviate the sufferings of human beings. The object of this Administration is to give relief to those people who have suffered on account of enemy occupation. The relief is to be provided to those countries which have been under enemy occupation. There are one or two points on which I would like the Honourable Member to say something in his reply. One is the amendment which was moved by my Honourable friend, Mr. Nairang. The object of this amendment is that those countries which have been regarded as important bases for the purposes of carrying on the war against the Axis powers, if any of their areas suffer through famine or disease, those areas will also be included in the relief that may be provided by this Administration. To my mind, any such area is entitled to receive the same consideration and the same benefit which is intended to be given to those areas which are or have been under enemy occupation. We have the instance of Bengal. I can say without any fear of contradiction that Bengal has suffered more than what any country has suffered which is under enemy occupation.

**Dr. P. N. Banerjea:** Quite right.

**Nawabzada Muhammad Liaquat Ali Khan:** People have died in millions and the suffering of the people of Bengal is more than the suffering of any people living in any country which is under enemy occupation and I do not see any reason why such areas which have suffered because of this war should be deprived of the relief which is to be given in the name of humanity. Some doubt has been expressed that the wording of the amendment is such, which might convey an impression that this approval of the Assembly is conditional. The wording of the amendment which has been moved by my Honourable friend, Mr. Nairang, is practically the same as the wording of an amendment which was moved in the American Congress. I have got a copy of the amendment which was moved when this particular matter came under consideration in the American Congress and this amendment, I understand, has been passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate. The amendment ran as follows: It was passed on the 25th January:

"In expressing its approval of this joint Resolution, it is the recommendation of the Congress that in so far as funds and facilities permit, any area important to military operations of United Nations which is stricken by famine or disease may be included in benefits to be made available by United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration."

So, Sir, the amendment that has been moved from this side of the House is one which has already been accepted by the American Congress, the largest subscriber.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** The language used is 'may be included'.

**Nawabzada Muhammad Liaquat Ali Khan:** They say 'may'. I say 'should', naturally because it is we who have suffered and not the American Congress. It is my people who have died in millions and am I to be grudging even the use of word 'should'. Therefore I submit that Government indeed should have no difficulty in accepting the amendment which has been moved from this side of the House.

Now, the other point for consideration is the question of the amount of contribution by India. They have laid down a certain principle which, I am glad to note, has not been accepted by the Government of India, on account of the peculiar circumstances prevailing in this country. In that connection, I would request the Honourable Member to assure this House that no amount of money will be provided from Indian revenues without obtaining the sanction of the Assembly and that, to my mind, should be a sufficient check on any sudden impulse of generosity that may be shown by some of the members of the Government of India. We want to be generous, we want to give as much as we possibly can, but, as they say, Mr. President, charity begins at home. We can only help to the extent to which we possibly can. These are the two points on which I feel the Government should have no hesitation in giving an assurance to this House. Once again, I repeat that every Indian has got his fullest sympathy with the peoples who have suffered on account of this terrible war and I have no hesitation in my mind that every Indian would, in the name of humanity, do whatever he can to alleviate the sufferings of millions of people in this world.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** Sir, as I stated in my speech at the very beginning, I have no hesitation in giving the assurance to this House that the ultimate amount of money which should be payable on India's account would be subject to a Resolution or the financial appropriation proposal as may be necessary being brought before this House. So, there should be no compunction on that ground that we have got something behind our sleeves and we want to pay the money without taking the House into confidence. As regards the other point, I will deal with it in my reply along with other points as to how I look upon the question of the amendment.

To me it has been almost a surprise that Members after Members have taken up the attitude that we have not taken all steps to consult the House at an appropriate stage. It will be remembered by the Members of the House that in the July Session of last year we tabled a motion for discussing this Rehabilitation and Relief Administration proposal. Not only did we do that but we informally did consult various Members and various Groups. I myself did not remember it but I found a note of mine on the file of that date that the Members desired generally that it should be taken at a later stage when all appropriate and relevant documents will be available to the Members to enable them to judge the effect of the proposal.

**Dr. P. N. Banerjee:** May I explain in this connection that it was suggested that it should be discussed at a later date when the documents will be available and not after the final decision?

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** I will explain that. This proposed draft agreement was received by the Government of India on the 11th June last. And we received it, may I say, in reply to the point as to whether the status of India is recognised to be just the same as that of any other country, direct from the Government of the United States simultaneously as it was sent to the other Governments by the United States of America. We immediately took steps to table a Resolution on the basis of the facts as were then available to us. We gave notice of a motion here as well as in the other House. Very soon after these papers were circulated to all the Governments, various suggestions were made by the various Governments both in Europe and in Asia. We were then informed by the Government of the United States of America that on the representation of various Governments the draft agreement is being reconsidered and is being revised to improve the plan of relief organisation. And the original idea that this Conference should meet for signature some time in



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August was abandoned. Naturally, it was no fault of ours that we thought that it would be better to defer the matter to a later stage, as it was the view of some of the Members. But if any section of the House desired to get information at that stage, I was prepared to give the fullest information to them. The proposed Conference, it was then decided, would be held much later. In the meantime, we did not sit idle. We ourselves considered the effect of the proposal on India and the Indian public opinion and all along we took up the attitude that we will not be prepared to sign or participate in the relief plan without placing our proposal before the Legislature. We have all along taken that attitude here as well as elsewhere. It was in the middle of October that we knew the nature of the ultimate revised draft. In this draft much of the criticisms which were made in the original draft were revised and changed for the better. The Central Committee was only to make emergency decisions subject to ratification by the Council and subject to an objection of a member Government being brought for discussion and other safeguards. Originally, much of the power was vested in the Central Committee, which consisted of four Powers. Naturally, suggestions were made by the various Governments that it should not be so and if it was going to be an International Relief organisation, sufficient safeguards should be there for all countries to be equally represented on it. That was accepted. Then, in the original draft each member Government was required to make contributions of funds, materials, equipments, supplies and services within the limits of its available resources subject to the requirements of its constitutional procedure. The mistake which my Honourable friend, Mr. Ram Rattan Gupta, made was that he was quoting from the original draft. The revised draft said nothing about the nature of the contribution but provided that the amount and character of the contribution will be determined only by the appropriate constitutional bodies and our representation had some effect as will be seen from the nature of the Resolutions which were ultimately passed. Then, the reference to available resources was omitted. There were other changes in the constitution and the net effect of all these amendments was that they took away some of the powers and functions of the Central Committee, which is a smaller body, and vested them in the Council on which every signatory Government was represented. In particular, the arrangement contemplated in the original draft whereby the Central Committee was to exercise all the powers and functions of the Council was abandoned on terms which I mentioned in my original speech.

We were then informed that a meeting of the Conference for the purpose of the signatures of the 44 nations was to be convened on the 9th November. The House will remember that our Session commenced only on the 8th November and we had to communicate our decision as to whether India should be a participant in the Signature Conference or not. It will also be remembered that it was provided in the revised draft that any country may sign it subject to the reservation that it will be ratified by its Legislature. So, having gone so far as to meet all the objectionable features of the original draft and having regard to the fact that it was nothing more than the commitment of the country as to whether it was prepared to join an International Relief Organisation, after making our position clear we decided that we should sign it. If we had not signed it, we would have been the only nation out of 44 which would have been singled out and it would have been said that India is not accepting even the principle of the International Relief. We, therefore, informed the House that this has been done and in connection with the adjournment motion which was brought here I made it quite clear at that stage that our action did not commit India to anything beyond this that India was one of the countries which would participate in the International Relief and if the Legislature desired that it should not, she could come out and withdraw.

**Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari** (Tanjore *cum* Trichinopoly: Non-Muhammadan Rural): May I ask if the Honourable Member communicated that to the House at once or did he wait for communications?

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** My friends did not wait for communications. On that very day an adjournment motion was tabled and I had to give the reply immediately.

Now, Sir, it would be seen that the Administration has gone even further than that. From the very beginning, India has taken up the attitude that a percentage of the over-all national income cannot be, in view of the economic condition in India, the criterion by which we shall make our contribution. Sir, that principle has been accepted and the House will remember, and my Honourable friend, Dr. Banerjea, will remember that it was mainly with reference to India that this clause was provided there. But we did not even wait by merely seeing that these things have been done. We made it quite clear in giving instructions to our Agent General that India could not agree to being tied down to any simple formula like the percentage of national income or otherwise. But any contribution must be on the basis of the capacity of our country to contribute, and we specially emphasised the fact that India was passing through a very severe phase of economic difficulties, with acute economic distress prevailing in several parts of the country, with considerable strain of war conditions on India's internal economy, and that any contribution which we will make must be after full consideration of all those relevant facts and subject to the vote of the Legislature. Sir, both by formal and informal contacts with the delegates of the Council of U.S.A. and other countries, our Agent General made it quite clear that while India will be most willing, as my Honourable friend, Mr. Neogi, said that India will be really happy to participate in any organisation of international relief, we have got our own special difficulties arising out of circumstances of the war and the economic difficulties. Sir, we also went further. We specially emphasised that Relief Administration must accept as a general principle that in that Administration there should be no discrimination in any form against nationals of participating countries in areas in receipt of aid, and without making it a condition, we desired that Indian public opinion would naturally like that contributions made by India may be devoted in a substantial measure to the relief of adjacent countries with a large Indian population. We also gave full consideration and apprised the U.N.R.R.A. delegates about the economic difficulties in India. A conference was called on 9th November and, as I said, there was no time to consult the Legislature, we could not very well refuse to sign, when the final draft met almost every point of view which was raised by India and other countries and was to be subject to ratification, without opening ourselves to criticism in the international world that India is not a participant in the greatest international co-operative organisation which is being made in the interest of humanity.

Sir, my Honourable friends have discussed the question of the location of the Far Eastern Council, the personnel of the Far Eastern Council. May I inform the House that the question of the meeting of the Far Eastern Council was also taken up and for the time being, U.N.R.R.A. has decided, in view of the military situation, in view of the difficulties of finding suitable accommodation, in view of the difficulties in the personnel, to have its meeting in Washington for the time being, until the situation is better to enable the administration to bring its relief operation within the Far Eastern zone. We also made it clear that the Government of India would wish to be represented on the Far Eastern Regional Committee and one of the things which we have all along emphasised is as to whether we should be participants in other Committees or not. We have not yet been able to take a firm attitude without knowing as to whether we are actually going to be participants, but we have made it clear that in other Committees also, we should like to be represented at least in those Committees wherein India's interests might be affected, directly or indirectly.

Sir, as regards the famine question, I should make it quite clear that our instructions to our Agent General were that we should not be made to appear to be going there with a begging bowl for the relief of our famine areas. We thought that it would be inconsistent with the dignity and self-respect of a

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country to go with begging bowl. We made it clear as to our economic difficulties, and our attitude was really appreciated and, in fact, I sometimes feel that it was this attitude of ours by which we did not go with a begging bowl, but that we only placed the case of our economic difficulties, that there has been a reaction in American public opinion in so far as the famine situation is concerned. In fact, at a public session of the Council Mr. Acheson, whom my Honourable friend quoted, expressed the appreciation of the Council for this token of India's co-operation in spite of our widespread distress and he expressed the deepest sympathy with her people with a devout prayer that the efforts of those who were now engaged in the task of repairing the ravages of famine and disease might be successful in swiftly bringing the conditions under effective control.

Sir, we have also, as has been said by some Honourable Members, made representation for the appointment of a number of Indians in the higher ranks of the administration of technical staff.

May I say again, as I said before, that, as it is even now, the Indian refugees from Burma and Far East and those Indians who are in the occupied countries come within the scope of U.N.R.R. relief, and to meet their needs, we have pressed the case of Indians being appointed for the purpose of administering relief organisation? May I add that we have already sent names of eight Indians connected with Burma, Singapore and Malaya for appointment as opportunities may occur? We have also raised the question of the interest of Indians in occupied countries and we shall have to take up immediately steps with a view to supply the data which may be necessary for the purpose of giving relief to Indians in occupied territories. If any of my Honourable friends is interested in the subject, he can spend five minutes with me, and I will be able to show him the amount of data which has been collected for the purpose of giving relief to some of the countries devastated by the conditions of war in Europe. We have to prepare a large volume of materials to find out as to what should be the nature of needs and requirements in the shape of food, clothing and housing accommodation, medical needs and other needs for those Indians who are in the Far Eastern territories or for the repatriation of those Indians who left their homes and came back to India. There are technical Committees and we have taken steps to place the case of India. But there are certain difficulties, one of the things which the technical administration has rightly emphasised is that in all these technical Committees, there should be men who are experts in their subjects. It is no use my being a member of a Committee on, say, a matter which is highly technical and which I do not understand. As the situation in India today is, my Honourable friends will realise that there is great difficulty of getting suitable personnel, not merely not to speak of sending abroad but of being appointed within India. We are in difficulty to find out names who can go to Washington, who are experts in the subject, who can wait there for the purpose of say, 15 or 20 meetings in a year, and who should be paid by this Government. Sir, as I said, we are today in great shortage of personnel, and I do not know if we will be able to spare Indians of the type which are necessary to be members of these technical Committees. There are administrative officers and below them officers in the establishment. We tried to find out what salaries are being proposed, and at the salaries which are given there, I am extremely doubtful if we will be able to send suitable number of Indians to these posts, especially as the economic conditions in those countries and the prices prevailing there are such that it is not possible for Indians going from this country to live there on those salaries.

We also took steps to circulate copies of the Agreement and Resolutions to all the Members of the Assembly and in addition a copy of the first Agreement of April, 1943, was sent to the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce. The Federation sent us their views in October; the Indian Merchants' Chamber sent us their views; and in our instructions to the Agent General we informed him as to the viewpoints which were raised by the Indian mercantile and trading and commercial community, and to raise some of the points which will

arise in the nature of the discussion as an expression of the views of Indian industrialists. A copy of the final draft was also sent to the Chamber. I may also say here that we are not the only country which signed it; 14 countries signed it subject to ratification. I may also assure my Honourable friends that as representative of India there was no non-Indian there. Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai with our Trade Commissioner and Major Qadir who is the third Secretary represented India, Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai being the member and the others being the staff to assist him in the task.

Sir, my Honourable friend, Mr. Krishnamachari, has moved an amendment. I find great practical difficulty in accepting that amendment. After all whoever may be the representative, he must work under instruction for the Government for the time being and he must be prepared to carry out their instructions in day to day policy which may be enunciated. It would otherwise be extremely difficult for any Government to accept responsibility for what the delegate does. And I should only state that according to the terms of the Resolution a member of the Administration is a signatory Government. A question will arise, for example, to appoint a representative in technical and other sub-committees. My Honourable friend's amendment wants me to bring this matter before the Legislature. It is impracticable to consult the Legislature. As I said, it was not possible to get time to consult this Legislature, as we wanted, before signature. The Legislature may not be in Session and no Government has done it. The representatives generally will be representatives of the Government, the meetings of the Council will be held only once or twice, it may not be in time for the Legislature to be in Session and it is, therefore, extremely difficult to accept the amendment which my Honourable friend, Mr. Krishnamachari, has moved. I find it absolutely impracticable to give effect to it. I am aware of the constitutional position. I myself feel the difficulty of the constitutional position more than sometimes my friends do. I know that if I were functioning in a legislature which my Honourable friends want it would have been possible to do quite a number of things. But whatever might be the nature of the constitution today we have to work under that constitution and make the best out of it.

Sir, I am not crossing swords with my Honourable friend, Mr. Krishnamachari, as to whether I know the national income of this country or not. I can assure him that I not only know that but I know something more. I know the income of the average wage-earner, I know the income of the humble man behind the plough, I know the income of those associated with the concerns of industrial production, and I know the income of the land-owning interests of this country. But all these are foreign to the subject, because we have throughout maintained that India's contribution cannot be judged by the standard of national income. So, the national income of this country is altogether foreign to the present discussion; and, as I have said, our viewpoint has been accepted by the U.N.R.R.A. We will contribute within the limit of our resources, having regard to our requirements within the country, having regard to the strain on our resources due to war conditions, having regard to the acute economic shortage in India, having regard to the famine and famine conditions and,—as I have said and given an assurance,—subject to the legislative sanction of this House.

**Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** What is the amount that the Honourable Member wants India to contribute?

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** If my Honourable friend still requires figures it is difficult, as I said, to give an answer off-hand. There are quite a number of materials which have to be collected before we can formulate what should be our figures.

**Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** I merely want to know the Honourable Member's conception of that contribution.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** It should be about 8 or 10 crores of rupees and I shall be able to satisfy my Honourable friend as to why it should be that. That is purely my personal estimate. I do not say that that is the amount which I shall bring before the Legislature; the House will have the

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 fullest opportunity to decide what should be the amount of contribution at that stage. But that is roughly my personal guess.

Then the question comes as to how much we should pay and in what shape. As I said, that will depend on the extent to which our supplies may be available. And assuming that we contribute about 8 or 10 crores of rupees or 7 million pounds, we may pay the whole of the 7 million pounds in foreign credit or pay only 7,00,000 pounds in foreign credit and the rest we can give in supplies. As I said, these are matters which can only be discussed after I am able to consult the trading and industrial organisation to find out whether there is a possibility of supplies being available, what are the things which we can spare that we want to spare. That is necessary; and I do not want to take that responsibility on me without consulting the trade and commercial interests in the matter. I wish to consult them, men who may be competent to speak on the subject. But supposing for the time being that there are 13 to 15 lakhs of Indians still in the east and 5 lakhs of refugees in India who will come under the scheme, I cannot shut my eyes to the fact that to a certain extent it is only reasonable that we should meet some of their needs from within India. For example, it may be that we may be required to spare a little cloth or tea or jute or housing material or tents.

**Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari:** Would not that be the Honourable Member's responsibility, apart from the UNRRA?

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** So far as our responsibility is concerned, we will discharge it ourselves; but I am speaking for the time being of our responsibility to the UNRRA as regards Indian refugees in repatriation. In fact, from all points of view, I sometimes feel that it may help our industries in at least keeping up some of their war-time production if some amount of the manufactured goods may be made available. But, as I said, we agree that it should be after fully meeting the home requirements in view of the economic conditions of India. But a man may be a little more generous and instead of having 14 chattaks of rice every day he may think he will have 12 chattaks and give the additional 2 chattaks to a man who has nothing. So far as foodgrains are concerned, as I said, the question of wheat and rice does not arise for the time being, but it may be that some dried fruits or ground-nut we can spare from India. Sir, I have the fullest sympathy with the aims and objects of the amendment of my Honourable friend, Mr. Krishnamachari, but for reasons stated I cannot accept it as a practical proposition. And I am not sure that the carrying of the amendment as he has drafted it will not mean virtually our withdrawal, because it is contingent on a condition which we cannot accept. And, therefore, if you still carry it, I hope, you will realise that it will be extremely difficult for us to accept a part and still be a party to the UNRRA.

**Mr. K. C. Neogy** (Dacca Division: Non-Muhammadan Rural): Is not that really a domestic question, the method of selecting your representatives? How does it affect the UNRRA scheme?

**Dr. P. N. Banerjee:** It is merely a question of approval.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** I was only talking of the drafting of the amendment.

**Sir Syed Raza Ali** (Cities of the United Provinces: Muhammadan Urban): Sir, I may point out to my Honourable friend that in the case of representation of India at the League of Nations at Geneva no difficulty whatsoever was felt in selecting non-official Indians. The head generally used to be an official but there were occasions when the head of the delegation was a non-official. Having regard to that what is the difficulty of the Honourable Member?

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** I am quite prepared to consider the suggestion whether we may not have a non-official for the purpose of representing India on such matters where questions of policy are concerned. But I cannot give an answer off-hand. Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai, so far as our instruction goes, has done extremely well; he has put India's case as strongly as possible, emphasising at places more than one not only in formal meetings but informally, and I must say that he has done extremely well. I can assure the

House that if any major question of policy arises other than those I have explained to the House yesterday and today I shall propose to consult the Standing Committee whenever the House will be in Session, or whenever it is otherwise possible I shall be trying to get the views of the Leaders of the different Parties. In any case I propose to keep Members of the House informed at every Session as to the steps that have been taken, so far as the Administration is concerned. Beyond that I am not prepared . . . .

**Sir Syed Raza Ali:** Why not select non-official Indian?

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** Beyond that I am not prepared to go for the time being and, I hope, in view of that my Honourable friend, Mr. Krishnamachari, will not press his motion.

Sir, as regards the amendment moved on behalf of the Muslim League Party, I make it quite clear that as I understand Nawabzada Liaquat Ali Khan's view that amendment is not a condition precedent to our participation. It is in the nature of an additional recommendation. But I do want the House to realize all its implications: Firstly, the UNRRA organization cannot be completed within, say, at least six or nine months; it is not a governmental organization; it has no supplies of its own; it has no shipping; it has only money. Bengal needs today more food, more medicines, more clothing, more money for the purchase of cattle, implements, seeds, land and more transport facilities. We have ourselves money to pay for all these if we can get them. If Bengal finances cannot meet all those expenses, there are the means of the Government of India to pay for them. Therefore, the question which I am placing before my Honourable friends to consider is as to whether—apart from the expression of the general views of the House—it will be consistent with our status in the international world . . . .

**Nawabzada Muhammad Liaquat Ali Khan:** Absolutely.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** . . . that we should plead for a particular case of charity from abroad.

**Nawabzada Muhammad Liaquat Ali Khan:** We are not pleading for any charity.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** Apart from the general enunciation of the principle . . . .

**Nawabzada Muhammad Liaquat Ali Khan:** It is a definite recommendation.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** Apart from that, whether we should particularly press the case of any particular area—that is what I am saying.

**Nawabzada Muhammad Liaquat Ali Khan:** Why not?

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** We shall certainly welcome voluntary assistance. We deeply appreciate and acknowledge with gratitude, and I am sure all sections of the House are with me in appreciating and acknowledging with gratitude, the American peoples efforts to bring the conditions of famine and distress within the scope of the UNRRA.

**Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra** (Presidency Division: Non-Muhammadan Rural): What have they done so far?

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** If my Honourable friend will read the proceedings, he will find that all these matters were discussed as between the Governments of various countries and in various circles, and a draft was made by which the UNRRA Administration was to operate only with reference to those countries or areas which are under enemy occupation. Both the Houses of the American Legislature have, after fully considering the matter, expressed a desire in similar terms as is the amendment of my Honourable friend on the other side . . . .

**Nawabzada Muhammad Liaquat Ali Khan:** They were more humane than the Government of India! You are opposing it.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** I have not said that and I am not doing it. I hope my Honourable friend will wait till I say something on that.

Considering all these factors, I am on principle, as I have said, in agreement with my Honourable friend. But what I say is this: Without assigning at the first instance any particular location we may accept the enunciation of a general

[Sir M. Azizul Huque.]

principle applicable to the Administration, namely, any area important to military operations of United Nations which is stricken by famine or disease should be included. After it is accepted—I hope my Honourable friend will understand it—the special case of any area with reference to India may go there.

**Nawabzada Muhammad Liaquat Ali Khan:** The amendment does not mention any particular area.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** I am saying that in general terms the case of my Honourable friends will be brought to the notice of the UNRRA as the opinion of this Legislature. I will do that. But, as I have said, whether a particular case should be brought before them immediately is a matter in which I have some difference of opinion.

**Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang** (East Punjab: Muhammadan): But who is asking the Government to bring any particular case to their attention? We do not ask that.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** My Honourable friend did refer to it.

**Nawabzada Muhammad Liaquat Ali Khan:** Just as you referred to China, I referred to Bengal.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** In so far as that is concerned, I feel that if that is the desire of the House we are quite prepared to support it as our instructions to the delegate and as the attitude of the Indian Legislature in the matter, namely, that the areas which are necessary for military operations of United Nations should be brought within the scope of the UNRRA.

**Dr. P. N. Banerjee:** And famine conditions also.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** Yes. But as I have said, unless and until it is accepted by the UNRRA, we cannot bring the special case of India to its notice. I am quite prepared to instruct our representative that the Indian Legislature desire along with the American people that such areas should be brought within the scope of the UNRRA activities. I hope I have made the position clear.

**Sir Syed Raza Ali:** My Honourable friend mentioned the word 'Indian Legislature' twice. Why not make this recommendation your, and say 'the Indian Legislature as well as the Government of India'.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** Naturally. When Government of India says that this is the opinion of the Legislature, it certainly strengthens the case more than if it is said that it is the opinion of the Government.

**Some Honourable Members:** Hear, hear!

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** We will say that this is the desire of the people as represented by the Members of the Legislature. I will communicate the views of the Indian Legislature on that subject. It is not because I want to show that there is a difference of opinion between the Legislature and the Executive, but, as I have said, I entirely agree with the expression of the general principle. It is only that India's case should be put up after the UNRRA decide to include this within the scope of the UNRRA. We have our own reasons for that.

Sir, as I have said, we did instruct our representative to bring particularly the case of the economic difficulties to the notice of the delegates with whom he comes into contact. That had its reaction in America and my Honourable friends will also remember that as a result of this condition being known help has come without the UNRRA from the United States of America, from Canada, from Australia, from South Africa, from China and from the United Kingdom and other places.

**Dr. P. N. Banerjee:** Not in adequate amounts.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** I am not sure if my Honourable friend should say that. I can say with all the responsibility I have that so far as this assistance from abroad is concerned, I wholly owe my debt of gratitude to all those who have sent their contributions.

**Dr. P. N. Banerjee:** The amounts have not been sufficient.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** Speaking about the amounts contributed from abroad, I can also speak of the amounts contributed within India.

**Dr. P. N. Banerjea:** Large sums of money have been spent by charitably minded persons.

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** Speaking about the amounts contri-  
versy over this matter till at least the food crisis is over. But, as I have said, I know all these facts and I can say that whatever assistance has been given has been ungrudgingly given, most generously given, and given with a heart feeling the distress, and without having any obligation and without knowing anything more than the fact that the areas are under famine conditions. In that connection, I may be permitted only to give another instance. When there was a devastating flood in Midnapore and I was then the High Commissioner for India in London, the result of one 5 minutes broadcast showing the conditions in Bengal brought about, day after day for three weeks, 3 or 4 man loads of letters containing cheques and small contributions to the extent that the total contribution was over five lakhs of rupees in a few days. That was an expression of generosity and I was touched by that—I am not speaking of men who contributed in pounds, but I must say that I was deeply touched by the generosity of people who sent me six pence, 9 pence, and so on and these contributions were from old age pensioners, school children, hospitals, churches, etc. India has at least awaken sympathy of other nations in cases which have been brought to their notice. As I have said, it is purely my personal feeling that probably it would be better if we refrain from saying anything even in general terms as it will naturally bring the whole picture before them that we might be referring to our own case. But in any case if my Honourable friend thinks that it is a necessary item, I will certainly leave it to the decision of the House—I am not opposing the amendment—as to whether it should accept the amendment, or not.

Sir, I have tried to give replies to almost all the points which have been raised.

All I say in conclusion is that I deeply deplore the absence of my friends,  
1 P.M. the Congress, on the other side. If they had not participated in the other proceedings of the House, if they had not taken any part in other matters which had been brought before this House, I could have understood their abstention. But I do feel that their abstention in a matter of the greatest international co-operation might be misunderstood abroad. However, I do hope that my Resolution will be carried by the House in all the generosity of the principle behind it.

**Dr. P. N. Banerjea:** Will the Honourable Member forward to the United Nations the various suggestions and recommendations which have been made from this side of the House?

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** I am not sure, if I do forward all the speeches it will do much good.

**Dr. P. N. Banerjea:** I said: "recommendations and suggestions".

**The Honourable Sir M. Azizul Huque:** We will certainly forward the whole proceedings to our representatives. We will scrutinise all the points, and I can assure my Honourable friend that if there is any point on which the case of India should be represented, I am prepared to draw up a memorandum and send it to our representatives.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): I shall now put the amendment of Mr. Krishnamachari to the House. The question is:

"That to the motion the following be added at the end:

'Provided that the name/names of the representative/representatives who will serve on any body connected with the said United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration are submitted to the Legislature and their approval in the usual manner is obtained'."

The motion was negatived.



**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): I shall now put the amendment of Syed Ghulam Bhik Nairang to the House. The question is:

"That at the end of the motion the following be added:

'In expressing its approval this Assembly recommends that any area important to military operations of United Nations which is stricken by famine or disease should be included in benefits to be made available by United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration'."

The motion was adopted.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): I will now put the motion, as amended, to the House. The question is:

"That this Assembly approves the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration Agreement signed at Washington on the 9th November 1943. In expressing its approval this Assembly recommends that any area important to military operations of United Nations which is stricken by famine or disease should be included in benefits to be made available by United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration."

The motion was adopted.

The Assembly then adjourned till Four of the Clock.

The Assembly re-assembled at Four of the Clock, Mr. President (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim) in the Chair.

### MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT.

#### ATROCITIES PERPETRATED ON INDIAN MEN AND WOMEN BY TROOP STATIONED AT CHAKULIA NEAR JAMSHEDPOOR.

**Mr. President** (The Honourable Sir Abdur Rahim): With reference to the adjournment motion I have received the following message from His Excellency the Governor General:

"In exercise of the power vested in me by sub-rule (2) of Rule 22 of the Indian Legislative Rules, I, Archibald Percival, Viscount Wavell, hereby disallow the motions of Mr. Muhammad Nauman and of Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Ghani to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of considering 'forcible entry of troop stationed at Chakulia near Jamshedpoor in the District of Singhbhoom, Bihar, and committing theft and other atrocities on Indian men and women inhabiting the houses there and forcibly removing them at the point of revolvers and carrying them in Army Lorry and keeping them in unlawful detention for hours in a Dak Bungalow. Some of these people are still under detention of the Chakulia Army Camp' on the ground that the motions cannot be moved without detriment to the public interest."

I adjourn the Assembly *sine die*.

The Assembly then adjourned *sine die*.